

ST JOHN THE DIVINE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

WARHAM STREET • LONDON • SE5 0SX • Tel: 0207 735 4898

Head Teacher: Mrs. C. Warland Deputy Head Teacher: Mr. Glackin-McColgan

Chair of Governors: Peter Truesdale • Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Williams

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Thursday 2nd April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

And so we have arrived at the end of another term. What a fabulously 'full' term it has been. It does not seem that long ago that we were wishing you all a Happy New Year as we ushered in 2026 and now we are ready to wish you a Happy Easter. Time flies when you are having fun!

Despite being a short week, we've packed an awful lot into this final week of term. Celebrating **Holy Week**, we linked our learning to the work of Paul Gauguin (1848 -1903) the French artist who was/is known for his experimental use of colour and for painting pictures in shades of one single colour (The Yellow Christ, and the Green Christ). Each class was given a scene from Holy Week to illustrate and they were asked to do so using only one colour. The children produced some thought provoking artwork which they shared in our **Holy Week Mass** on Wednesday. You can see some of the work in the order of service from the mass which your child has brought home to share with you.

We also launched our **Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call Fundraising Appeal** – a **Sponsored Read** over the Easter Holiday. Chosen by the children, the aim is for the children to read as many books as possible and to ask family and friends to sponsor them as they read. Sponsors can donate an amount per book read or pledge a set amount of money.

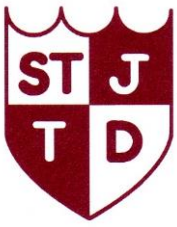
The children worked out in our launch assembly that there are 12 days of the holiday, including today, and if everyone read a book a day and was sponsored 50p per book by just one person, they would raise £6.00. If every child was able to raise £6.00, we would be able to collect £570.00 for the appeal. That is just from one sponsor...now imagine how much we could raise if we had two or three sponsors! This year the money being raised will be used for projects that focus on the work of schools that help children to flourish – a worthwhile cause for us all to get behind!

The final event of the week was our annual **Easter Bonnet Parade**. Well done to everyone who took part, there really were some fantastic creations, as you can see here, and everyone gets a little treat for taking part.



Every year it gets harder to judge – and every year I end up picking more winners than I intended – with children and their grown ups having made such an effort that I am spoiled for choice. However, judging has taken place and I am delighted to share this year's winners with their beautiful bonnets...





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Below is a summary of the learning that has taken place across the school this week.

Early Years

In Early Years this week, we have had a lot of fun creating art pieces for Sunday Palm, inspired by Paul Gauguin, using 3D materials and print methods to explore texture and pattern. In maths, the Reception class has been exploring 3D shapes, learning about curved surfaces and flat surfaces by building towers. The Early Years class really enjoyed taking part in the church service during Holy Week and creating Easter cards using shapes.

Year One

This week in Year One we have really been working hard on our Holy Week Project. We examined pictures of Jesus cleansing the temple on Holy Monday – we looked at the emotions painters had captured in the faces of those present and we tried hard to capture these in shades of red. The children have shown great technique in their drawings, with real attention to the detail of the scene. And, they were so delighted to be able to share their art work in church as part of our Holy Week service. We also met our new teacher for the Summer Term this week – Miss James. We are so very grateful to Mr Bui for all of his hard work and for looking after us so well. We are not saying goodbye to Mr Bui completely, he will be joining us for the first few days of the new term to help with a smooth transition.

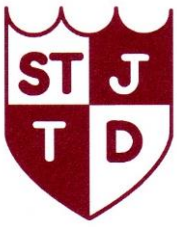
Year Two

This week in our class we have been creating our own pieces of artwork influenced by Paul Gauguin. The colour we were given was orange and Holy Tuesday, the day of Jesus' teaching on the Mount of Olives where he shared the parables. The children brainstormed their ideas and decided on a beautiful sunset scene with a tree in the distance and Jesus in the foreground. The materials we used consisted of paint, chalk, fabric, feathers, glue, paper and card. The results were exquisite.

Year Three

This week was a very special one in Year Three as it was Holy Week. The children learnt all about the Easter story and explored each day in depth, developing a deeper understanding of the meaning and importance. We created art work linked to Spy Wednesday, using shades of the colour black, which was exciting. We also spent time practising our songs for church and ended the week with a lovely





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service, sending us into the Easter holidays in a thoughtful and joyful way. Well done, Year Three, for your hard work and respectful reflection this week. Have a wonderful Easter break!

Year Four-Five

This week in Year Four and Year Five we created art work covering two days in Holy Week. The children in Year Four represented Maunday Thursday and the Last Supper in shades of Purple, whilst the children in Year Five looked at the events of Good Friday, shrouded in blue. We also finished reading our core text, 'Floodlands' and we found out what happened to Zoe – we won't spoil the ending for future classes but we can say that we are relieved!


Year Six

Congratulations Year Six on a successful Spring Term. Their efforts have been paying off as seen in their improvements this term. This week, we have been thinking about Holy Week and the events leading up to Jesus' journey to the cross through our RE lessons and their beautiful yellow-coloured Holy Week art work. Enjoy some well-deserved rest over the holidays ready for next term!

Head Teacher awards were presented to the following children in this week's celebration assembly.

EYFS	Johnnie for having a great start to his first week, making new friends and participating in his learning. Marietou, for showing responsibility when playing and being a good role model for her friends.
Year One	Jonathan for using his phonological knowledge when spelling out new words. Ava for exploring ways of using facts when writing poems of what scares a mouse and a squirrel.
Year Two	Jayden for remembering the whole script for assembly and helping his peers when they needed prompting. Maliyah-Rose for working as a team with her brother in practicing her lines for the assembly and showing so much enthusiasm in public speaking.
Year Three	Isaiah for producing a great report in English and showing his brilliance through thoughtful research and presentation. Nevaeh-Rose for trying to make the right choices both in and out of the classroom and showing a positive attitude towards learning.
Year Four & Year Five	Francisca for making links when finding the perimeter of rectangles and rectilinear shapes. Faith for asking questions and making connections with how we make communities, linking this with how communities are made through the practice of Holy Communion.
Year Six	Amira for her excellent efforts in her learning. She has shown great improvement in her writing, reading and maths skills. Mark for his much improved behaviour and his brilliant motivation to improve across all his subjects, particularly Maths.

The house point totals for this week are:

 GARRISON	23	 AUGUSTINE	23
 FRANKLIN	26	 DICKENS	18

On a final note, I wish you all a Happy Easter holiday and I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 13th April 2026.

Kind regards

Mrs Warland
Head Teacher

