



Friday 10th September 2021

Achievements

De Porres:

Reception Class

Stars: Leon,
Aaratya and Georgi
Year 1 Class Stars:
Carson, Jackson
and Karina

Year 2 Jacinta:

Class Star: Alfie
HT Awards: Anna,
Chloe, Amelie-May,
Olivia and Aaron

Year 3 John Paul II:

Class Star: Holly
HT Award: Sophie
and Alex

Year 4 Faustyna:

Class Star: Fintan
HT Award: Jack

Year 5 Teresa:

Class Stars: Liam
and Annabel

Year 6 Drexel

Class star: Sam W

This week:

It has been a truly joyous first week back!

The children have settled incredibly well into school life. I was especially impressed by how our EYFS St de Porres children coped with their first day and week at St Cath's. It has been wonderful welcoming them, our other new pupils, and all their families into our St Cath's family.

As at the start of every year, the children have been learning about their class Patron Saint and our Mission Statement, 'Be who God created you to be and you will set the world on fire'. They are certainly living out our Mission Statement and being inspired by the lives of the saints. This can be seen in the individual acts of kindness they have shown to each other.

Year 5 St Mother Teresa have been particularly moved by the plight of Afghan refugees. They have spent their Feast Day making beautiful cards to welcome the Afghan families who are going to be rehomed in Watford. We cannot possibly comprehend what they have experienced, or how they must be feeling, but we hope that the cards will show them that we care and that our community welcomes them with open arms and hearts filled with love.

As you know, Fitz has also been settling in to school life. I am now used to being completely ignored as staff and kids fuss over him! Even those children who were slightly nervous at first have been completely won over by his overwhelming cuteness! As one child said to me today, 'The reason I love dogs is because they know when you are sad and they try to make you happy.' Fitz has certainly made a lot of children and adults happy this week.

Year 6 Drexel attended Mass at Our Lady and St Michael's Church today. It was wonderful for our school to be back to feeling an integral part of the parish again. I hope that I will also see lots of you, and your children at the parish Feast Day on Sunday.

Wishing you a lovely weekend,
Ms Kane

Be who God created you to be and you will set the world on fire.



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This week:

It's been a full on first week in the Unit! The children have settled in so beautifully, and our Year 1 children have been fantastic helpers, making our new starters feel so welcome! We have started our new book "And Tango Makes Three", learning new facts about penguins and using our creative streaks to create, paint and draw penguins!

We have been exploring our continuous provision during discovery time where we have been building, telling stories, using technology, digging for buried treasure in sand and so much more! We have made lots of new friends along the way and can't wait to see what next week holds!

This week in Year 2...We have explored our new classroom and are settling in well.

In maths, we tested our mental maths skills and started looking at number and place value. In English, we researched penguins on our chrome books and wrote questions to the authors of 'And Tango Makes Three'. In RE, we shared our learning on our class and school saints. We learnt about the importance of the message the Pope wrote about in the Fratelli Tutti.

What a fantastic start to Year 3! This week we have focused on settling into year 3 expectations. We have worked hard to ensure our work is presented neatly, that we are ready for our learning and always being who God created us to be - which is fabulous! Our week has been FULL of RE! We have learned about our Class Saint, our school mission statement, St Catherine of Siena and much more! We have written some beautiful prayers and discussed why God has made us who we are. At the start of the week, we read a book called 'Bee Heartful' and wrote our own pledges on how we can be loving and kind. To top it all off, we have been singing a range of hymns (and the odd pop song thrown in!) Well done Year 3 for a cracking start to the year.

This week in Year 4 we have been working hard in our English lessons and are enjoying the book 'And Tango Makes Three'. We created beautiful story maps and have discussed what we like and dislike about the book. In RE, we used the laptops to research our class saint, St Faustyna, and found out lots of interesting information about her. We spent some time in the Chapel reflecting on how important it is to believe in ourselves and even started read our class book down there too. Taking inspiration from the Willow Pattern style of artwork, we created our own masterpieces based on 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.

It has been wonderful to welcome my Year 4's as very mature Year 5's this week. It has been amazing to hear the classroom filled with laughter and enjoyment again. We started the week with classroom expectations and our aspirations for Year 5. In English we started our new class book "And Tango makes three". We made a story map and practised retelling the story. In RE We looked at our class saint and reflected why she is an inspiration to us. In Art, we thought about our inner and outer self and created a self-portrait based on it. A fantastic first week of learning!

We have had an amazing start to the year in Year 6. I have been so proud of how each and every one of the children have settled in and adapted to being back at school- they are all working so hard! We have begun our whole school English unit based on the book "And Tango Makes Three". This week, we wrote our own non-chronological reports about penguins and next week we will be writing our own versions of the story. In RE, we have looked at St Drexel and St Catherine and how they inspire us to live our lives. We have also reflected on our school mission statement and motto. We loved our art lesson on Tuesday afternoon, where we looked at vocabulary associated with the colour wheel. We then created our own colour wheels. Finally, on Friday we were lucky enough to attend mass at Our Lady & St Michael's church. It was so nice to be a part of our local parish, joining together in worship.