

## The Good Shepherd

Harvest Festival took place at School. Year 5 did an excellent job in leading the service and our families donated food items into school as part of our Harvest celebrations. These food donations were passed onto The Good Shepherd, Wolverhampton whose mission is to create sustainable pathways out of poverty to end homelessness in Wolverhampton. Food donations were gratefully received by the Good Shepherd where their daily services include hot meals, showers, clothes, accommodation and user support programmes.

Later on during the Autumn Term, 3 members of the Spiritual Council went to visit The Good Shepherd to find out what happens with the donations. They were accompanied by Mrs Jackson and Mrs Hallam.

They were told that on average 170 individuals attend 3x per week for a hot meal and that 70 families, which includes 400 children, now use the food pantry on a weekly basis. These numbers continue to grow. There are over 40 volunteers who carry out a range of tasks.

Ayaan said, 'There is a thing called a family pantry and at the start of the week it is full but by the end of the week it is empty.'

Arwen said, 'It's really sad that so many people are in need for help though it is good that there are places like the Good Shepherd to help people.'

Mrs Jackson spoke with the school as part of our 'There is Room project' about how we can show through our actions that 'There is Room for God' at Christ-



mas. The three children who visited the Good Shepherd, used what they had learnt as part of the worship on 'There is Room for people experiencing poverty.'

## Muller Yoghurt Pots



This term the children in school have been reusing and recycling muller pots. Here are some of our designs. Over the last few years the children in the school and spiritual councils have requested that the catering service use less plastic. However, they are unable to find an alternative on the market at the moment. We therefore took part in a project to find creative ways of reusing yoghurt pots.



## Mutual Respect and Tolerance

### **Autumn Term 2023**

*'So, faith without works is dead.'* James 2: 26

At St Michael's we encourage and support all our children to be 'courageous advocates'. This means children support causes which are important and meaningful to them. The issues that children advocate may be a large global issue or a smaller issue closer to home that could even be personal.

At St Michael's we believe that courageous advocacy links directly with our Christian Value of love and the British Value of 'Respect and Tolerance'. We believe this will give children a sense of belonging, understanding of the world and promotes independence and perseverance, allowing children to understand the world they live in and the change they can bring to make their world a better place.

## Odd Sock Day

The school wore odd socks for anti-bullying week and to celebrate each other's differences. Staff joined in as well. Year 3 spoke about the importance of being kind to everyone and recognising that we all have different strengths.



## The Giving Shed

Our giving shed has a brand new, rather bright and funky look thanks to the artist talents of some of our Spiritual Councillors and Mr Williams. During December we collected a mountain of jam, bottled water, coffee and chocolate. The school community is encouraged to make donations and take items they need. Anything left over at the end of term will be donated to The Good Shepherd.



## Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 20th December, as well as being our Christmas lunch today, was our Christmas jumper day. Children and staff were invited to wear a Christmas jumper to school in exchange for a donation of £1.00 to raise money for charity. This year we were supporting Christian Aid. The money raised along with the money from the Music Extravaganza Evening



will buy some unwrapped gifts for places around the world. The Spiritual Council have tried to look at how they can help those suffering poverty both close to home and abroad.

## The Well

The children asked if we could collect chocolate bars for our own Christmas Tree mountain, with all donations going to the Well. The chocolate bars will be distributed to families in need across Wolverhampton. The Well is a Christian charity with a passion to show Jesus' heart of love for the disadvantaged across the city by providing food parcels and essentials for those in need. Three children from the School Council went with Mrs Hallam and Mrs Luscombe to the Well to see the work they do.

## Dunelm's Christmas Appeal

This year, the school community was able to buy a bauble for £1.00 to go on our Christmas tree of Remembrance at the front of the school. Money raised although planned to support Dunelm's Christmas Appeal, 'Help us to deliver joy this Christmas' ended up being used to buy essential items for The Good Shepherd. Arwen, Catrina and their mum were went to buy the items on School's behalf. The tags from the tree will be taken home at the end of term for people in our community to pray about.



## Community Library

We are thrilled to announce the official opening of our brand-new adult 'Community Library' box. This initiative aims to bring the joy of reading to our local community and will be a valuable resource to foster a love for literature and learning. We have kindly requested that, should parents and staff have any adult books that they have finished reading and would like to donate for others to enjoy to pop them in our box just inside the main school reception. We are encouraging everyone to make the most of this valuable addition to our school.



