

Chaplaincy

This year's 'Celebration of the Word' Chapel Services, which take place in form time, offer students the opportunity to be actively involved in their preparation. Each form group visits the Chapel over the academic year. During the service, students are asked to consider the scriptural readings based on our weekly Gospel theme, and reflect on their actions over the week, alongside time for prayer and personal intentions. Additionally, students write or choose a prayer or poem to be read at the service.



This year we are also celebrating with the Catholic Church across the world in unison. 2025 has been declared a Jubilee Year of Pilgrimage. Pope Francis asked us to be 'Pilgrims of Hope' and as a school we have planned a number of events to mark this Year of Jubilee, coinciding with our own School Jubilee Year as we celebrate 60 years of SJF school. The Jubilee Year of Hope was declared officially open by Pope Francis in his opening of the door of pilgrimage at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. We too marked the opening of the Jubilee Year by lighting our Jubilee of Hope candle during a Celebration of the Word Service.

We continued to mark this opening in all our Religious Education lessons, where students were able to consider how we might become Pilgrims of Hope reflecting on the Jubilee icon artwork, based on the Gospel passage of Luke 4:16-21, in bringing the Good News.



We are working towards a Jubilee Pledge, where, as a school we commit to 'stand in solidarity with the poorest communities, sharing hope and challenging injustice by pledging to take concrete actions to make our community, country and world a better place'. This will be combined with our SJF Feast Day celebrations in June. Watch this space!

For more information about how the Jubilee Year will be celebrated in schools, please visit <https://cafod.org.uk/jubilee-schools>



♥ **respond**



- What do you notice?
- What draws you in?
- Does the icon help you to see the story of the Gospel in a different way?



What do you notice?



Four figures, representing everyone on earth, of different kinds of people from all different places on earth.

They embrace each other to show solidarity, friendship and that we should be one united, global family.

Chaplaincy (continued)

We began our Lenten journey, as ever, in solidarity, as a whole school community. On Wednesday 5th March we held our Ash Wednesday Mass, using our Chapel/Hall space to accommodate a mix of year groups while the rest of our students simultaneously accessed the livestream from classrooms. Father Peter Ehinmiro from St. Michael's Chatham celebrated the Mass for us, supported by parishioner Elsie. All students and staff were able to receive ashes and pause for reflection as one spiritual community.

Our Charity Ambassadors delivered assemblies to all year groups on our Lent theme and introduced our almsgiving activities. They also thanked everyone for their support and announced that collectively, we have raised over £4800 for our chosen charities. Thank you to all members of our community for your support.



So far this year we have donated over £4800 to our chosen charities.

Plus, we have donated food, toys, toiletries and sweets.
Help us to continue to help those in need.

Tickets were very popular for our Easter Raffle and Mr. Harris led a fantastic and scrumptious bake sale. So far, the proceeds are over £160. Well done to Mr. Lockett, the lucky raffle winner, and thank you to all those who contributed.



Additionally, during Lent we held extra morning Masses. Thank you to both Father Peter Murphy from Parkwood Parish and Father Neil Vincent from Rochester Parish who kindly celebrated these morning Masses for us. Father Peter also gifted staff and students some rosaries to aid their Lenten journey, inspiring them to grow in generosity through prayer with Our Lady.

