

The St. Jude's Jubilee Journey

Update 1, Spring Term 1 2025

As a school, we have spent a lot of time reflecting on the Jubilee year and what it means to be Pilgrims of Hope. Our first assembly of the Spring Term focussed on what a pilgrimage is and how we can take part on this special celebration in a meaningful way.

We shared the Jubilee prayer and talked about the Jubilee icon and its symbolism. The pilgrim's journey is something that everyone is doing together, not by themselves, and the figures on the icon are all leaning in closer to the cross in the icon. Similarly, the cross also bends down towards the people, not leaving them alone, but stretching out to them as a reassuring presence, offering the safety of hope.

Pupils have created some excellent work in their Learning Journals about the Jubilee and some produced information leaflets which are for visitors to school so that we can spread the message of hope far and wide. Every week in assembly, classes have been taking it in turns to ask a 'Jubilee Big Question' which we display in our main entrance and discuss throughout the week.

All classes enjoyed joining in with the live stream of Diocesan official Jubilee launch on January 24th. It was wonderful to jointly celebrate with schools across the Archdiocese joining in with singing, prayer, listening to scripture and reflecting on the special times ahead.

As a response to the call to be Pilgrims of Hope, during this year, we are encouraged to visit places of pilgrimage and to spend some time in prayerful reflection there. Year Six were privileged to visit St. Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham. As well as being part of our Confirmation programme, the visit to St Chad's is a perfect place to represent the school as Pilgrims of Hope. Mrs Smith was also very privileged to make a pilgrimage to the Vatican City in Rome where she lit a candle for the school community.

