

## ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

We have had a great few weeks with everyone back in school. The children have been incredible and we are back doing what we love: teaching children in school. What a difference it has made to everyone! It really feels like we are returning to some kind of normal.

Whilst we still have strict preventative measures in place, we have been able to provide great opportunities for our children; we've just had to be a bit more creative in the way we work. Year 4 played a game of 'Guess Who' over Skype with our link school in France. It was great to hear the children asking and answering questions in French; what a fantastic way to practise the vocabulary that has been learnt in lessons!



Year 3 children have had a brilliant 'Stone Age Day', including tasting fish cooked over an open fire! What an amazing way to learn about the past and the impact on our world today.

Year 6 children have enjoyed a 'Feed the Nation' World War 2 workshop learning about the impact on food production and how this affected the community during this period.

Our outdoor learning space has been getting a revamp! The raised beds are now planted. The children are responsible for caring for the vegetables and fruit, watching them grow and then using the produce in our teaching kitchen.

You may have seen us around Welton just before Easter wearing bunny ears. As a school we have chosen to support St Barnabas as one of our charities this year. It is a charity close to the hearts of many of our school community. The whole school took part in the 'Bunny Hop'. This took place around the village, combining physical activity and a treasure hunt with maths questions whilst raising a grand total of £1,480.80. Thank you to everyone who donated to such a worthwhile charity.

The whole school enjoyed the Easter experience, each day being outside for collective worship whilst building up their knowledge of Easter. This included hanging white ribbons on trees to reflect our prayers to be strengthened when we feel weak, just as Jesus prayed in the garden of Gethsemane.





We also remembered Jesus' sacrifice. The children made crosses on the ground with natural materials and remembered Peter's denial of Jesus.

They 'burnt' twigs of forgiveness on a 'campfire' and reflected on times when we might have betrayed someone or someone betrayed us.



We were able to 'visit' the 'Garden tomb' and see the empty grave and then had delicious hot-cross buns and squash in the warm sunshine!



One of the things we have missed over the last year has been providing the children with experiences which enhance their learning but we are really looking forward to the summer term when we have many more exciting learning experiences planned.

Take care. Stay safe.

**Mrs Nicola Gough**  
Headteacher