

HALSALL PARISH COUNCIL WE MEET 2ND WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH AT ST AIDANS & THE MEMORIAL HALLS ALTERNATELY PLEASE SEE NOTICE BOARDS FOR DETAILS

May 2019 MAGAZINE

Closing date for Articles: Monday 15th April

Contributions by Email only to Susan Roberts susanroberts2805@aol.com

Closing date for Adverts: Monday 15th April

susanroberts2805@aol.com

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Parish Clerk Dave Bond	01704 534090		
Borough Councillor Maureen Mills	01704 840160	Surgery before Parish Council monthly meetings.	
THE CHURCH OF ST CUTHBERT, HALSALL			
Rector	The Revd Paul Robinson Parish mobile	0151 526 0512 07518 926086	
Assistant Priest	The Revd Dr Alex Baker	07798 702831 01695 422306	
Church Wardens	Stephen Henders Lynda Bramwell	01704 841085 01704 840280	
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Gas Emergencies Electricity NW United Utilities (water) Police Contact (non urgent) Local Police Officers or PCSO's Street Lighting Fault Reporting Line Fire Safety Helpline 0800 111 999 08001954141 0345 6723723 101 **OR** 08451253545 01695 566444 0300 1236701 0800 169 1125

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST.CUTHBERT, HALSALL

Rector The Revd Paul Robinson The Rectory Church Lane Lydiate L31 4HL Phone: 0151 526 0512 Parish Mobile: 07518 926086

Email: paulrobinson407@gmail.com

<u>Parish Surgery</u>: Anyone wishing to arrange a Baptism or Wedding should ring the Rector's Secretary to make an appointment. The phone number of the office is 0151 526 2292 and the office is staffed Monday-Wednesday 9.00am—1.00pm or you can email at:

stthomassteph@btinternet.com

<u>The Sick</u>: This parish is committed to the care of the sick. Names of those in need of this ministry, either at home or in hospital, should be given to Paul. The Blessed Sacrament (Holy Communion) is reserved in church and can be taken to the housebound or ill. Holy Oil is also kept for the anointing of the sick.

<u>The Dying:</u> Paul can be contacted at any time of the day or night in order to minister to the dying.

Halsall St Cuthbert Hub website

The website for the St Cuthbert Church community can be viewed at www.halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk

The website contains information about services and events, archive material including school reports, Halsall Parish Magazines dating from now and back to the 1800's, information and other general news updates.

It also provides a link to *Virginmoneygiving.com* where it is possible to donate to us online. On the spot updates are also available via the Facebook page.

We would love to hear from anyone who may wish to suggest other content that would be relevant and of interest to the community.

General enquiries about the site can be directed by e-mail to: <u>info@halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk</u>

<u>The Kiss of The Sun for a Blessing, The Song</u> of The Birds for Mirth, One Is Nearer to God in <u>a Garden, Than Anywhere Else on Earth.</u>



So it was for the women who were the first of Jesus' followers to discover that he was no longer in the tomb. They themselves had risen early in the morning and had gone to the tomb to perform a final act of service, to anoint Jesus' body. They found a man (Jesus) standing at the entrance of the tomb and supposed him to be the Gardener. In doing so Mary Magdalene creates a metaphor that I think is a very useful way to think about God and how he acts.

God the creator and sustainer of all creation encourages new life. God is the one who is working to bring the world to life. This image is echoed by the words of Jesus in John 10:10 *"I have come that you might have life and life in all its fullness"*. Hymns like 'All things bright and beautiful' come to mind and images of great gardens like the garden of Eden or paradise. What is your vision of paradise?

Having been brought up for the first part of my life in central London in the 1980's I have to confess that my image of paradise as a child had nothing to do with wellies (green or otherwise), vegetables or Forsythia. Paradise was probably Italian red and almost certainly had four wheels. Gardening for me has been a blessing that I have only discovered in the last few years. One of the joys it has brought, is the discovery of how many of our traditions and how much of our language is based in a knowledge of the natural world. 'Bee-lines', 'pecking-orders', and even why we celebrate Easter with Eggs have all taken on new meaning! (Previously I had no idea that eggs were a seasonal produce dependent on the lengthening days, with chickens only staring to lay round about now).

Whilst I might be a late convert to the joy of gardening, I can testify to the sentiment of the poem that many gardeners will know that formed the title of this letter. Somehow being in nature, away from screens and technology helps me to reconnect with God. It helps me to pray and helps me to find balance in life. Many Christian saints such as St. Francis and St. Benedict have had similar experiences and advocated gardening as a spiritual discipline.

The challenge for the women at the tomb was to recognise the encounter with Jesus as just that. Mary didn't recognise him until he spoke.

So I offer to you the same challenge, what is it that draws you closer to God? What is it that helps you to encounter God? For some it is trees, for others mountains or music, for some it might be dance, for others scripture, contemplation or prayer, for yet others it might be the love of partner or family. Learning what it is that helps us recognise and be drawn closer to God can bring us new life and new joy.

As the days lengthen, and the world around us starts to come back to life anything that brings this kind of new life, that builds up the kingdom, that brings the warmth of the sun and casts away darkness, that rejoices in life in all its fulness can help us understand God more closely and help us Celebrate the New Life of Christ this Easter.

May we all be filled with the new-life of Christ this Easter,

Alex

HOLY WEEK AT ST CUTHBERT'S AND ST THOMAS'

Holy Week is, or should be, the most important week in the year for any Christian. It is a time when we think about the journey that Jesus made for us. A journey that would change the course of history for ever.

On **Palm Sunday** we remember that people welcomed Jesus: they shouted Hosanna! To the Son of David; and waved palm branches in welcome. The people were glad to meet him, and that is how it should be for us as Christians today – we should be glad to meet Jesus in our worship. We should be glad to know the person who loves us so very much. Our life should be one of gladness in meeting Jesus.

On **Maundy Thursday** we remember that Jesus had a meal with his friends, and through that meal, he told us that whenever we eat bread together and drink wine, he will be with us in a very special way. It is also the day that Jesus shows us what it is to be a servant to other people. That it doesn't matter how important we think we are, as Christians, we should always be ready to help other people. Jesus was the greatest – the Son of God – and yet he washed his disciples feet, thus setting an example for us all.

On **Good Friday** we remember that because he loved us so much, Jesus was nailed to a cross. He was put to death by people who didn't like him and who didn't understand him. And we still nail Jesus to the cross today, we still put him to death. We do it every time we say or think something nasty and horrible about someone else. Because when we do this, we let God down, we let other people down and we let ourselves down, and it means that Jesus died for nothing. Yet Jesus loves us so very much that he was prepared to die for us, and therefore, we should do our best in keeping him alive by the things we do and say.

On **Easter Day** we remember that Jesus rose gloriously from the dead, and by rising from the dead he shows us that all he had ever said was true. The light that had come into the world could never be extinguished – and that light is Jesus. And when he told the women in the garden to go and tell other people about what happened, he was also telling us to do the same. All of us are called to tell the story of Jesus and we are called to tell it by what we say and do, and by how we live our lives.

So as you get ready for **Holy Week** (and you will find details of the services we have planned in this magazine) remember what Jesus has done for you – remember the journey that he made for you, and come along and share that journey with others. **Holy Week** is the most important week in the Christian Year. It is a time when we remember that the history of the world was changed forever, and it was done by someone who loves us and who desperately wants us to journey towards him.

HAVE A HAPPY AND HOLY EASTER

HOLY WEEK 14TH - 21ST APRIL 2019 SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT ST CUTHBERT'S and ST THOMAS'

PALM SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion - St Thomas' 9.30am - CW Eucharist - St Cuthbert's (including The Blessing of Palms) 11.00am - CW Eucharist - St Thomas' (including The Blessing of Palms)

<u>MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK</u> 8.00am – Said Eucharist – St Thomas' 10.30am – Diocesan Eucharist – Liverpool Cathedral (Including the Blessing of Oils and Renewal of Ordination Vows) 6.30pm – Evening Prayer & Reflection – St Thomas'

> <u>TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK</u> 8.00am - Said Eucharist - St Thomas' 6.30pm - Evening Prayer & Reflection - St Thomas'

> > <u>WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK</u> 8.00am - Eucharist - St Thomas' 6.30pm - Stations of the Cross - St Thomas'

<u>MAUNDY THURSDAY</u> 8.00am - Morning Prayer - St Thomas' 6.30pm - Evening Prayer - St Thomas' 7.30pm - CW Sung Eucharist, Stripping of the Altars - St Thomas' (followed by a vigil of prayer until 10.00pm)

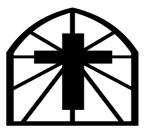
<u>GOOD FRIDAY</u> 9.00am - Morning Prayer and BCP Litany - St Thomas' 11.00am - Stations of the Cross starting at Our Lady's Roman Catholic Church with a Walk of Witness to St Thomas' 2.00pm - Good Friday Service - St Cuthbert's (IT WILL BE WARM IN CHURCH - I PROMISE) 6.30pm - Evening Prayer - St Thomas'

<u>HOLY SATURDAY</u> 8.00am - Morning Prayer - St Thomas' 6.30pm - Evening Prayer - St Thomas'

EASTER DAY

8.00am - BCP Holy Communion - St Thomas' 9.30am - CW Sung Eucharist - St Cuthbert's (including The Lighting of the Easter Candle and Renewal of Baptismal promises) 11.00am - CW - Sung Eucharist - St Thomas' (including The Lighting of the Easter Candle and Renewal of Baptismal promises)

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT HOLY WEEK IS THE MOST IMPORTANT WEEK IN THE CHRISTIAN YEAR. PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO WORSHIP DAILY, IN PREPARATION FOR THE NEW LIFE OF EASTER THAT OUR LORD OFFERS TO ALL.



APRIL SERVICES IN THE UNITED BENEFICE

Sunday 7th April – Lent 5/Passion Sunday

8.00am 9.30am 11.00am It S/Passion SundayBCP Holy CommunionSt Thomas'BCP Holy CommunionSt Cuthbert'sCW Sung EucharistSt Thomas'

Sunday 14th – Sunday 21st April PLEASE SEE THE HOLY WEEK ADVERT FOR ALL SERVICES

Sunday 28th April – Easter 2 (APCM Sunday)

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	Holy Communion & APCM	St Cuthbert's
11.00am	CW Eucharist & APCM	St Thomas'

MID-WEEK EUCHARISTS

Wednesday 3rd April 10.00am St Thomas' Church Wednesday 10th April 10.00am St Thomas' Church

Monday 15 th April	8.00am	St Thomas' Church (Holy Week)
Tuesday 16 th April	8.00am	St Thomas' Church (Holy Week)
Wednesday 17 th April	8.00am	St Thomas' Church (Holy Week)

Wednesday 24th April 10.00am St Thomas' Church

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

APRIL

- 1st Rose Serjeant
- 1st Nellie Balshaw Edwards
- 3rd Keith Styling (Birthday)
- 3rd Margaret Heaton (Birthday)
- 5th Les Marshall (Birthday) 7th Roger Baldwin (Birthday
- 7th Roger Baldwin (Birthday) 8th Nellie Edwards (Birthday)
- 10th Vera Styling (Birthday)
- 11th John Banks (Birthday)
- 12th Thomas Balshaw
- 13th Joan Halsall
- 13th Maureen Ainscough
- 14th Jack Williams (Birthday)
- 17th Angela Pilkington
- 17th Brenda Helen Rhodes
- 17th Edward Sumner
- 19th Florrie Pilling (Anniversary)
- 21st Catherine Bullough
- 23rd Lawrence Baldwin (Anniversary)
- 27th Gladys May Core (Birthday)
- 29th Harriet Louise Rimmer (Birthday)



WARDENS AND SIDESPERSONS



7th	Stephen Henders	Anne Grimshaw	Elaine Ayre Philip Banks
14th	Lynda Bramwell		Eileen Houlgrave Ann Critchley
21st	Stephen Henders	Elaine Ayre	Eleanor Wroe Enid Banks
28th	Lynda Bramwell	Colin Throp	Jim Critchley Len Davidson

April 2019

CHURCH CLE	ANING ROTA	April 2	2019	
14th April	E Wroe	J Wroe B Knowles	K Mudd	J Rawsthorne
28th April	E Banks	N Donaldson S Roberts	M Webster	L Wilkinson

St Cuthbert's Church Storm Damage

As many of you are no doubt aware it has been necessary to close the Church and Churchyard following damage to the weathervane during the high winds over the weekend of the 9/10th March.

Currently the insurers loss adjuster as well as the Church's designated Architect are in the process of reviewing the damage in order to determine a way forward for the repairs.

This will involve re-scaffolding part of the spire and after the insurers have completed their aerial survey by drone it is very much hoped the repair process will be started as soon as possible.

In the meantime it is very important that visitors do not access the Churchyard as the damage has left the weather vane in a very unstable state.

We will only be able to re-open the Church and grounds once the weather vane is stabilised.

In the meantime services will continue to take place in the School Hall at St Cuthbert's School. Further information on progress and any changes to services will be posted on the facebook page and website.

www.halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk



Halsall Village Proud & Tidy Group



Spring has sprung, and our beautiful village is need of sprucing up.

Unfortunately, a bad bout of pneumonia has left its toll on me and I am not 100% fit yet. Luckily Enid is still as fit and active as ever, but as she already leads a very busy life we are short of volunteers and are desperately looking for some extra help.

You could join us on Tuesday 9th April from 6.30 for an hour or so when we will be tidying up around the village hall, snooker hut and car park at the Memorial Playing Fields. Just turn up with a pair of gloves and a willing hand and you will be made very welcome. We only have about 2 of these communal tidy ups each year so it's not a big commitment if you want to come and join in.

If you prefer to do something in your own time, we have some other jobs which need doing. These include -Painting 3 lamp posts - Cleaning & staining a bench - Power washing - Cleaning the tables in Bishops Walk -Washing and staining the notice board in Summerwood Lane car park . Please get in touch if you can spare an hour or so to help.

For further information please post on our Facebook site (Halsall Village Proud & Tidy Group), or contact Eleanor Wroe (elliwroe@hotmail.com or 01704 841216) or Enid Banks (enidbanks@aol.com or 01704 567654)

Halsall Scarecrows will be on Parade again during June. Please get you thinking caps on for some more of those fabulous creations we saw last year! This year we will be holding a communal scarecrow making session in May to get the ideas flowing and



hope lots of you will join in the fun!

Further details in next month's newsletter.

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING

2019/0101/FUL - Land Rear Of North Moor Cottage, North Moor Lane -New boundary fence and site access gate located at the entrance to the new residential development situated on North Moor Lane

PARKING ALONG SUMMERWOOD LANE

Cars parking either side of Summerwood Lane at school times and when funerals and weddings are taking place at St Cuthbert's are causing an obstruction and prevent large vehicles, including the emergency services from passing through.

Please use the Memorial Hall car park whenever possible.

PARKING ALONG SEGARS LANE

Cars double parking and parking on pavements are causing problems along Segars Lane. Can residents please park in their driveways if possible and leave enough room when parking on pavements to allow prams and wheelchairs to get through.

FLY TIPPING

Please report any instances of fly tipping to Dave Bond (Parish Clerk)

Parish Council Meetings

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 10th April 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at The Memorial Hall, Halsall Road, Halsall.

Please note: If you wish to make audio or video recording, or take photographs of the meeting please phone Dave Bond, Parish Clerk on 01704 534090 or email <u>davebondhpc@aol.com</u> in advance of the meeting so that this can be arranged in an organised manner in order to minimise any disruption.

A full list of Councillors and contact numbers can be found toward the front of the magazine.

The Parish Council Website <u>www.halsallparish.com</u> includes agendas and minutes of previous meetings.

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 17th April 2019 at The Memorial Hall, Halsall Road, Halsall at 7.30 p.m.

- 1. Apologies for absence.
- 2. To confirm and sign the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 11th April 2018.
- 3. Chairman of the Parish Council's report.
- 4. Parish Council Financial Statement 2018 2019.
- 5. Reports from organisations.
- 6. Report from County Councillor David O'Toole.
- 7. Report from District Councillor Maureen Mills
- 8. Open forum.
- 9. Date and time of the next meeting

This is an opportunity for residents to have their say and ask their representatives any questions they want answers to.

Halsall St Cuthbert's Sunday School

We welcome any new children and their parents to join us on the 14th April at 9.30am and then again on the 28th April.

In May we meet on the 12th and the 26th at 9.30am. Weather permitting, we should be able to get out and about during these occasions. It would be good to see



you enjoying our very informal and friendly sessions.

Tara Kenyon and Ann Cushion

Road Safety - Speed Limits

It's often said and with justification that those charged with determining speed limits and road safety issues in Halsall and elsewhere in the Borough only show interest when fatalities occur. Halsall Parish Council knows this only too well. Despite making representations and submitting compelling evidence little or nothing ever happens with the result that lives and property are placed at risk on a daily basis. To compound the problem, the reduction in police numbers means that whilst they're doing their best, regular monitoring is at its lowest level in living memory.

Too often those who could introduce change choose to ignore the fact that for example Renacres Lane and Heathey Lane are 'rat runs' - even Sat Navs promote these roads as the quickest way to Southport Hospital and adjacent areas. If they do follow up submissions, they appear mid-morning or after launch when the rush hour speeding has long gone. They are blind to the appalling state of the road surfaces, the crumbling edges, the adverse cambers and the blind bends. Add to that the long narrow straights, for example New Cut Lane and others stretches, open invitations for the irresponsible to floor the accelerator. As if all that wasn't enough, the large Kew Housing estate is coming on stream with the consequent increase in traffic on these same inadequate roads.

Well now another fatality has recently occurred on Renacres Lane and the man outside whose house the accident happened has decided to act. Jim Houghton has started a petition calling for a review of speed limits in the locality and any other traffic calming measures needed to avoid risk of further deaths. He has the full support of the Parish Council and Massams have kindly agreed to host the petition in their showroom. Can I ask on behalf of Jim that as many of you as possible find time to stop by and sign the petition. Thank you in advance.

Councillor Patrick Bell, Chairman, Halsall Parish Council

Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition 2019



There are changes to the Lancashire Best Kept Village competition this year and Halsall has been re-classified as a large village . As well as the competition for the village overall, there will be awards for outstanding features so we have entered 5 areas for special judging - the school, the church, the Saracens Head, the cricket grounds and the Village Bakehouse.

Judging is done by 2 sets of judges during June & July who award marks for various items. The judges will each visit twice during this time in the first round of judging. The villages with the highest marks will have a further visit from committee members in the second round of judging. The top 2 villages in each category will go forward to the final judging in August.

Here is the report of how the judges saw our village in the 2018 competition -

Halsall has a good appearance overall with an absence of weeds, litter and graffiti. There were a few attractive hanging baskets on lamp posts in Summerwood Lane. Most houses were maintained to a reasonable standard. The bus stop in the centre was clean and had a clean timetable, but the

The bus stop in the centre was clean and had a clear timetable, but the litter bin needed emptying. The stream had overgrown banks but was clear flowing.

St Cuthbert's Church had a thought-provoking changeable sign and a lovely clock tower. Replacement stones in the walls had been very carefully matched, but the protective windows were dirty and the seats in the churchyard needed painting. Its school was very impressive with beautiful flowers and an excellent playground with a good variety of equipment and the mosaic school sign was a lovely feature. The only downside was weeds in the roof.

The War Memorial was well maintained with attractive floral tubs.

The wildlife walk had some picnic tables which needed treatment, but had an attractive fencing round them. The village hall was a modern building, but doors and windows needed cleaning. There were no floral displays. The car park was weed free but lacked markings.

The children's play area had a good range of equipment on a safe fenced surface, but there were some weeds appearing between the blocks. The other equipment was not fenced.

The Post Office was well maintained and the commercial buildings in the middle of the village were very attractive. The Saracens Head was excellent in almost all respects and was located in a perfect setting.

So, despite our hard work, we were not as successful as in previous years and were not even placed in the top 8 of medium sized villages and neither our school nor the Saracens Head gained a Certificate of Merit Award.

With your help we are hoping for better results in 2019!

Keep Britain Tidy's "Great British Clean Up" 2019

Some of you may recall that last year West Lancashire Borough Council supported Keep Britain Tidy's "Great British Clean Up". We encouraged Community Groups to organise clean-ups and we assisted with the provision of bags and litter picking equipment. The Council also collected bagged waste that had been collected and disposed of it appropriately.

Keep Britain Tidy are promoting the initiative again and West Lancashire Borough Council will again be supporting it. This year Keep Britain Tidy are aiming to inspire around half a million people to join in and collect and safely dispose of litter from the Country's streets, parks and beaches, recycling as much as possible. Keep Britain Tidy want people to stand together and declare that litter – which degrades the beauty of our environment and threatens to harm wildlife – **is not acceptable**.

The Council are keen to support the initiative as our vision is to be a council which is ambitious for West Lancashire - our Economy, **Environment** and for Health and Wellbeing. This is further clarified as follows

We are ambitious for our economy, and for inclusive growth in West Lancashire, retaining and growing good quality jobs, increasing skills levels and encouraging business and wealth generation. This is matched by our ambitions for a **good quality**, **clean**, **built and physical environment**, and for ensuring the conditions are in place for people in West Lancashire to live healthy and fulfilling lives. We are currently reviewing how many clean-ups we can accommodate on our land. Last year the Tawd Valley Park was chosen for specific attention and I am hopeful that more of our parks will be involved this time.

The good news about this year's initiative is that it is set to last just over a month, between 22nd March and 23rd April, thus giving additional time for people to organise and participate in local clean ups.

The focus this year relates to improving the environment and as such I have been asked to co-ordinate the project.

Essentially our offer is the same, in that we can provide bags and some picking equipment. We will also collect any bagged waste from a clean-up. If you would like to arrange a clean-up and want some assistance from us please let me know. If you do not need our assistance, I would still like to know about any clean-ups you arrange. I will be detailing them on the Keep Britain Tidy website and that may encourage more people to join in with you. I am also feeding information back to Keep Britain Tidy, to assist them demonstrate the worth of the initiative. The information I would like to gather is where the clean-up was, how many people assisted, how many minutes were spent collecting, how many bags of litter were collected and finally what type of litter was collected.

Keep Britain Tidy have produced a good guide for people hosting clean ups, which details information about equipment and health and safety, amongst other things. Please let me know if you would like a copy.

If I can assist further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Andrew Hill <u>B.Sc.</u>, P.G. Dip, E. Dip. (Man.), MCIEHEnvironmental Protection and Community Safety Manager, West Lancashire Borough Council Tel: 01695 77177 West Lancashire Borough Council

Robert Hodge Centre, Stanley Way, Skelmersdale, West Lancashire, WN8 8EE

www.westlancs.gov.uk



Come and join the Litter Heroes from across the UK to improve the environment on your own doorstep.

The Great British Spring Clean 2019 is underway across the Country. Conor Edwards is organising the Halsall Clean Up on Sunday 7th April at 2pm . Meet at the Memorial Playing Fields at 2pm. Hi-Viz vests, litter pickers and bags will be provided. Just bring a friend and some gloves.

The Village Bakehouse has kindly offered a **free hot drink** of regular tea or filtered coffee to all those returning with a bag of litter. It would be a help if you could let Conor know if you are coming, so he can bring enough equipment. Thank you

Conor Edwards - 01704 841 496 email - cedwards05@btinternet.com

PLEASE HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Saracen's Head Crown Green Bowling Club

(rear of Saracen's Head, Summerwood Lane, Halsall)

New Members Welcome

We would be delighted to accept both established players and beginners.

Social Bowling sessions throughout the season as well as league bowling.

Tuition can be arranged if you are new to bowling

Come along and give bowls a try.

50% discount on membership fee for the first year.

For further information, please contact

Lynda Hodge on 07435 971762



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<u>Halsall St Cuthbert's Primary :</u> <u>April Update</u>



Swimming Success

The swimming team won Gold at the small schools' Swimming Gala in March. All the children performed brilliantly and there were individual Gold Medals for Ethan Helme (50m freestyle) and Georgina Carlisle-Collett (50m freestyle), a silver medal for Maia Adamson (25m freestyle) and Bronze Medals for Josh Howard (25m freestyle), Finlay Henderson (25m backstroke) and Emma Wilson (25m backstroke).

The boys' relay team (Ethan Helme, Luke Dunning, Finlay Henderson and Josh Howard) also won Gold.

The girls' relay team (Georgina Carlisle-Collett, Matilda Glazzard, Emma Wilson and Maia Adamson also won Silver.

Many thanks to the parents for taking them all to the Nye Bevan pool in Skelmersdale and giving them all this fabulous opportunity. They'll never forget it!



Mayor's Visit

We were honoured with a visit from the Mayor of West Lancashire, Mr Noel Delaney and Deputy Mayor, Mrs Gaynar Owen last month. The mayor looked amazing in his formal regalia and the children found him fascinating. The aim of the visit was to meet the staff at the school, speak to the children and look at some of our wonderful facilities and displays here. After a few cups of tea and slices of cake they said their goodbyes. They had a lovely morning with us and they'd be welcome back anytime.

Dog Mess on the Field.

The old problem still exists with dog mess being found on the school field and activity trail. We are regularly having to console small and terribly upset children who have dog dirt on their shoes, hands and clothes. It is so distressing for them and a serious health and safety matter. Please keep an eye open for anyone who may be walking their dog on the school premises (they're actually trespassing) and allowing their dog to do this. It is such a thoughtless and irresponsible thing to do and shows little regard for the children in our care. If you spot anyone, please let us know so we can inform the dog warden and police.

<u>Red Nose Day</u>

The children came to school in their own clothes and with their jazzy hair and wigs. There were some amazing styles on show and they all had a great day.

<u>Book Fair.</u>

As part of our Book Fair, we held a Character Dress Day. The children came to school dressed as a popular book character. Again there were so many brilliant outfits and everyone made such a brilliant effort. There were special year group prizes for the most unusual and original costumes.

Beautiful Frieze of God's World

One of our parents Mrs Lucy Edney is currently painting a fabulous religious frieze to display in the school hall. The frieze shows the birth of the world, it depicts the stories of Adam and Eve, Moses and Jonah and the whale, the Christmas story, Jesus preaching, his death and resurrection from the tomb. The frieze will provide a wonderful centre-point for our daily worship, for Rev Paul's visits and for the termly Eucharist services. Mrs Edney is a very talented and creative artist who has committed many hours to this project and deserves our unreserved thanks and appreciation. The frieze is something that we should really treasure. It'll be on display for many, many years and hopefully, it'll help to teach the children more about God's amazing world and the life of Jesus and further strengthen their Christian knowledge and faith.

Mothering Sunday Service

The service will take place at St Cuthbert's Church at 9-30am on Sunday 31st March. If the church is not available on the day because of recent storm damage, the service will take place in the school hall. Please come along, help us celebrate, give thanks and show all our mums just how special they are.

Looking After God's Creatures

As part of our project about caring for God's creatures, each class has now been designated living creatures to look after. Class L has an egg hatchery and is waiting for the little baby chicks to break out of their shells, Class H has butterfly eggs and is waiting for caterpillars to emerge, Class K has stick insects and their eggs (and a very secure lid to the tank!), Class C has a wormery and Class G are being mesmerised by the antics of the giant African snail.

D Scholes (Head Teacher)

April 2019	
Lynda Bramwell	Elaine Ayre
Sarah Mitchell	Lynda Bramwell
Gwyn Williams	Tara Kenyon
Ann Cushion	Lynda Bramwell
	Lynda Bramwell Sarah Mitchell Gwyn Williams

Space Week

We followed a Space theme the 1st week back after the half-term holidays. The children found out more about the history of space travel, they considered life as an astronaut, they watched DVDs, they carried out research and they studied the stars, our solar system and its planets. They also thought about weather and scenery on other worlds and the possibility of life and aliens. They drew pictures and sculpted clay models of other lifeforms, designed cardboard rockets and did paper mâché moonscapes and painted scenery. All these activities were the Inspiration for lots of descriptive writing and adventure text. Here are two great examples of the creative writing.

Thank you to Finlay and Alisha

Dear Diary

Friday 27th June 2021

Have you ever been in space? I'm up there right now! Today was the best day of my life, all that training was worth it. Floating is the most enjoyable and relaxing thing ever.

I was, I'll admit very nervous. I was scanning round looking for the TV camera so that I could see my family, but I couldn't find it. I took a deep breath and stepped inside the rocket. There is no going back now, I thought. The rocket we are on is called the young people space voyager (or the Y.P.S.V for short). As I entered the shuttle I saw the other astronauts: Tom the phone addict; Matt the documenter; Emil the air expert and me the engineer. Strapping in I heard the countdown from Houston.

"3, 2, 1, blast off!"

Sounding like the world had exploded we took off. After 30 seconds we were already high in the sky. We were in space within a minute of our take off. As we exited the atmosphere we hit a piece of space junk and one of our boosters fell off. But we are safe and that is what matters

The first celestial object we saw was the moon. Battered by many meteors, its surface was bare and desolate. Tom kept getting really frustrated because there was no Wi-Fi. Next came my first job, I had to do a spacewalk! I had to check that no damage had been done to the shuttle. There were a few scratches but luckily there was no major damage done to the shuttle.

Next there was lunch. The thing is, I was so excited that I didn't want to eat. But Matt told me that I should eat otherwise I might be sick- and it is really hard to clean up sick with zero gravity. So I ended up eating a tortilla with peanut butter, it wasn't much but it was enough.

The next planet we saw was Venus. People say that we might colonise there one day but as we flew closer it looked more and more inhospitable. It looked like it had been dunked in a volcano and there was a constant storm there.

I'm now in my sleep sack writing this. Now my best day ever is over but I hope tomorrow will be just as good. We will hopefully make it to our destination the Sun. I am going to be up there for six years. See you tomorrow.

Finlay

Sunday 14th June 2027

Dear Diary,

Today was the best day ever! I woke up this morning, the sun was beaming on my face, the birds were singing and on my calendar I had today circled. I thought for a moment what it could be for, then I realized why, it was the day I was going to space! As quick as a flash, I had a shower, got dressed, grabbed my suitcase (as I was going to be there for a while) and I rushed out of the door. Excited about travelling to space, I had completely forgotten to eat breakfast, so I was starving, but that didn't stop me from going to space!

It only took me ten minutes to get there (as I don't live very far away) so I wasn't late, in fact I was quite early. I gazed up at the rocket. The spaceship (which was enormous) glimmered in the daylight, it was beautiful. I climbed up the rocket's steps and walked over to where I was sleeping. I unpacked my suitcase (which was overflowing with clothes) and I made my sleeping area warm and homely. Five minutes before we took off, the rest of the crew came aboard the rocket. I got to know them pretty quickly and became good friends with them. There was: Kayla, who managed the air tanks; Brent, who supplied the food for us; Sheldon, who made sure the spacesuits are fitted properly and Jaquelin, who was just there for company.

When it was time for take-off, we were strapped down to a seat.

"I should be safe, shouldn't I?" I thought to myself. When the engines turned on, the rocket started rumbling like a hungry hippo. The noise was deafening. And then it finally happened, we took off! We went so fast that the ground had disappeared within seconds. We were a shooting star soaring through the sky!

Feeling nauseous, I quickly ran to the room were all of the supplies were stored. I found a paper bag and threw up into it. As I glanced up to grab a disinfectant wipe to wipe my mouth with, there was a tiny window. I peeked a look outside of it and I saw Earth! It was just a dinky sphere in an enormous galaxy!

Later on, it was time for lunch. I was starving as I hadn't ate anything for breakfast in the morning so I had lots and lots of food! The food was great, considering we were on a spaceship. After lunch, I was so full that I couldn't walk without slumping, so I lazily walked over to my sleeping area and lay down on my sleeping bag. I was lying down on my back looking up at the ceiling when I noticed a small window above me. After ten minutes, I finally drifted off to sleep. When I woke up, I looked up to the window again and guess what I saw...it was Jupiter! It was gigantic. I took out my Polaroid camera and took a picture of the planet. Once it had printed, I stuck it in my scrapbook along with the pictures of Earth and Mars that I had taken earlier.

At six o'clock I had my dinner- a grilled cheese sandwich with a chocolate milkshake. My favourite! To make it, I had to take two pieces of bread out of a foil bag (that is what we keep our food and drinks in). I took out a few slices of cheese out, and placed them onto the bread. I then put them inside of the microwave. It was a special microwave, you didn't need mains electricity for it to work because it was solar powered (perfect for space). As soon as the sandwich was ready, I ate it all up. Mmmmmmm yummy! Once I had ate it all up, I got to know everyone else a bit better. We talked for hours and hours. Then it was about half ten, I was so shattered.

I went to my sleeping area and put my pyjamas on. And here I am, writing this. I wonder if tomorrow will be just as much fun as today was? See you tomorrow, bye for now.

Alisha



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April at-a-glance

April is the month when the blossom is out in force with everything from flowering cherries to garden fruit trees all making a beautiful show. Mild April weather can make you think summer is here but sharp frosts can still catch you out. Be careful not to plant out tender plants yet unless you can cover with fleece. Enjoy mild sunny days – spring is just around the corner. Happy Gardening.

General Garden Tasks

Spring clean borders, keep on top off weeding & hoeing.

Feed roses, borders, hedges, trees & shrubs with a general-purpose fertiliser. Treat moss & weeds & re-seed bare patches.

Plant or move evergreen shrubs.

Feed acid loving plants.

Prune winter jasmine and hydrangea; tie in shoots of rambling roses & clematis. Wait for six weeks (if you can) after flowers of spring bulbs are over before cutting foliage down.

Towards the end of the month, plant dormant dahlia tubers outside.

Plant new alpines & top up scree beds or troughs with gravel.

Continue to sow hardy annuals outside.

Pot up cuttings of tender perennials taken last year.

Tidy up hedges & clip if necessary.

Plant first early, second early & maincrop potatoes.

Plant asparagus crowns & clobe artichokes.

Harvest the first overwintered spring onions.

Sow hardy herbs (parsley, chervil, coriander, fennel, dill & marjoram.

Plant strawberries.

Plant & tie-in a new grapevine.

Prune stone fruit trees if necessary.

Ventilate the greenhouse on sunny days but close it early to retain the heat at night.

Top-dress & take cuttings from big old plants.

Spring clean the pond.

Divide overgrown plants & put in new water plants.

Towards the end of the month start feeding your fish.

Watch out for

Slugs & snails on newly emerged perennials & vegetable seedlings.

Plants in their Prime

Flowering cherries. Prunus. Crab apples. Magnolia. Spiraea. Ribes. Doronicum. Pulmonaria.

Pieris. Tulips. Fritiiaria. Primula. Viburnum. Brunnera. Camellia. Mahonia. Magnolia stellata.

Bergenia. Hellebores. Lamium. Polygonatum. Viola. Iris reticulate. Trillium. Erythronium.

Bellis daisies. Ranunculus. Winter-flowering pansies. Arabis. Aubrieta. Phlox. Saxifraga. Scilla.

Tina Lloyd www.mosshousecottageplants.co.uk



A Family History Request...

Hello my name is Lynne Webster. I am trying to trace any information to help me put together a family tree.

My grandparents were Ann and John Webster, they farmed in Halsall. Their last address was possibly 'Byways', Small Lane North. They both died in 1943 and are buried in St Cuthbert's churchyard.

They had 6 children Alan, Teddy & Joseph (twins), Nancy, John (my father) and Jean. Nancy's married name was Dagnall and she lived in Summerwood Lane.

My mother Francis was born in Pitt Street, Liverpool in 1918. Francis' married name was Leedham. Her mother was Isabella Prescott also of Halsall 1895-1986.

Please if anyone remembers any of the family members or could help with any information I would appreciate it.

I don't have a computer but can be contacted on 07817180576.

Thank you, Lynne

June Woods

Always remembered, never forgotten. Born 21st April, left us 2nd April 2018.

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