

# Remembering POPE FRANCIS

**POPE FRANCIS**  
1936-2025



'To learn, to love, to live as a community of God with Christ as our teacher'



# A Prayer for Pope Francis

O God, faithful rewarder of souls, grant that your departed servant Pope Francis, whom you made successor of Peter and shepherd of your Church, may happily enjoy for ever in your presence in heaven the mysteries of your grace and compassion, which he faithfully ministered on earth.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

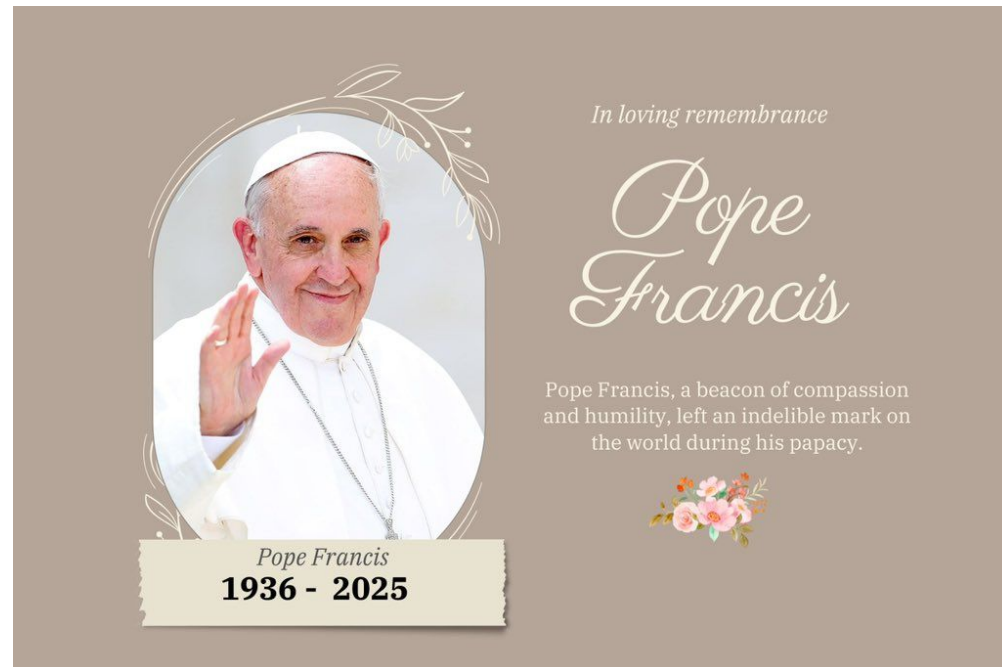
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.



# Remembering Pope Francis

When we returned to school on Wednesday 23rd April 2025, we held a special service to remember Pope Francis after his passing on Easter Monday 21st April 2025.

The children all listened and prayed very reverently as we learnt about the life of Pope Francis and all his great achievements.

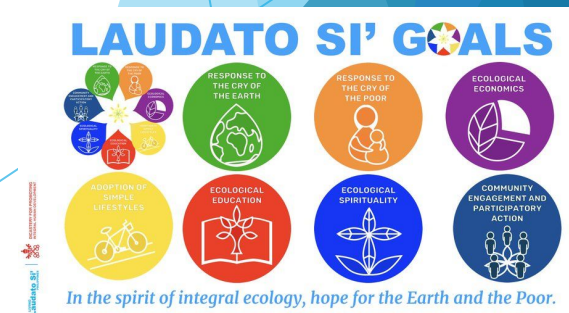
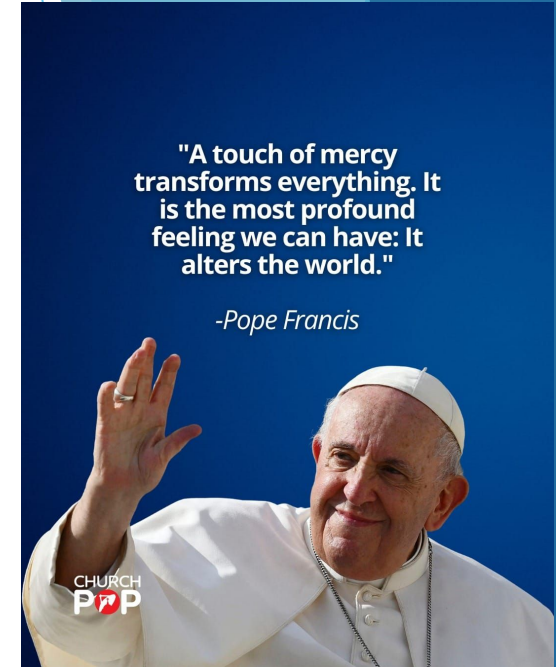


# Pope Francis' Legacy

Pope Francis has left a great legacy after his death. He was one of the more humble popes, wishing to show servitude by following in the footsteps his chosen saint name - St Francis of Assisi. He chose humility and poverty over luxury and fame. He refused to live in the grand apostolic palaces in the Vatican City, opting for a more humble abode nearby. In his first appearance as pope, he wore a simple white cassock rather than the lavish robes of some of his predecessors.

Pope Francis worked tirelessly for peace in the world. As well as advocating for the needy and for migrants. He also made it his mission to show us the importance of caring for the earth. He wrote an encyclical called '**Laudato Si**' which explained that we are '**one family with a common home.**' Reminding us, that it is our duty to be stewards of the earth and to care for it.

He told us '**to live wisely, think deeply and love generously**'. We have a mission to be pilgrims of hope this year and onwards, to honour his life's work.





As a whole school community, we joined together to learn about the life of Pope Francis and what he had achieved in his lifetime. The children also learnt about his coat of arms and following his death, how a new pope will be elected.

We watched this video clip and prayed that he may rest with the Lord in peace in heaven.

[Video about Pope Francis](#)

The children also did some work in their classes and wrote some prayers remembering the special role Pope Francis played as the head of the Catholic Church.

We reflected on his mission of helping others less fortunate and watched this CAFOD video about how he inspires us to be pilgrims of hope throughout the world.

[CAFOD Video about Pope Francis](#)



We then said this prayer together and sang our pilgrims of hope song.

Dear God,

Thank you for the work that Pope Francis did for Your people and our world.

Help us to continue his work and follow in his footsteps by caring for others around us and for our planet.

Let us be pilgrims of hope for all the world.

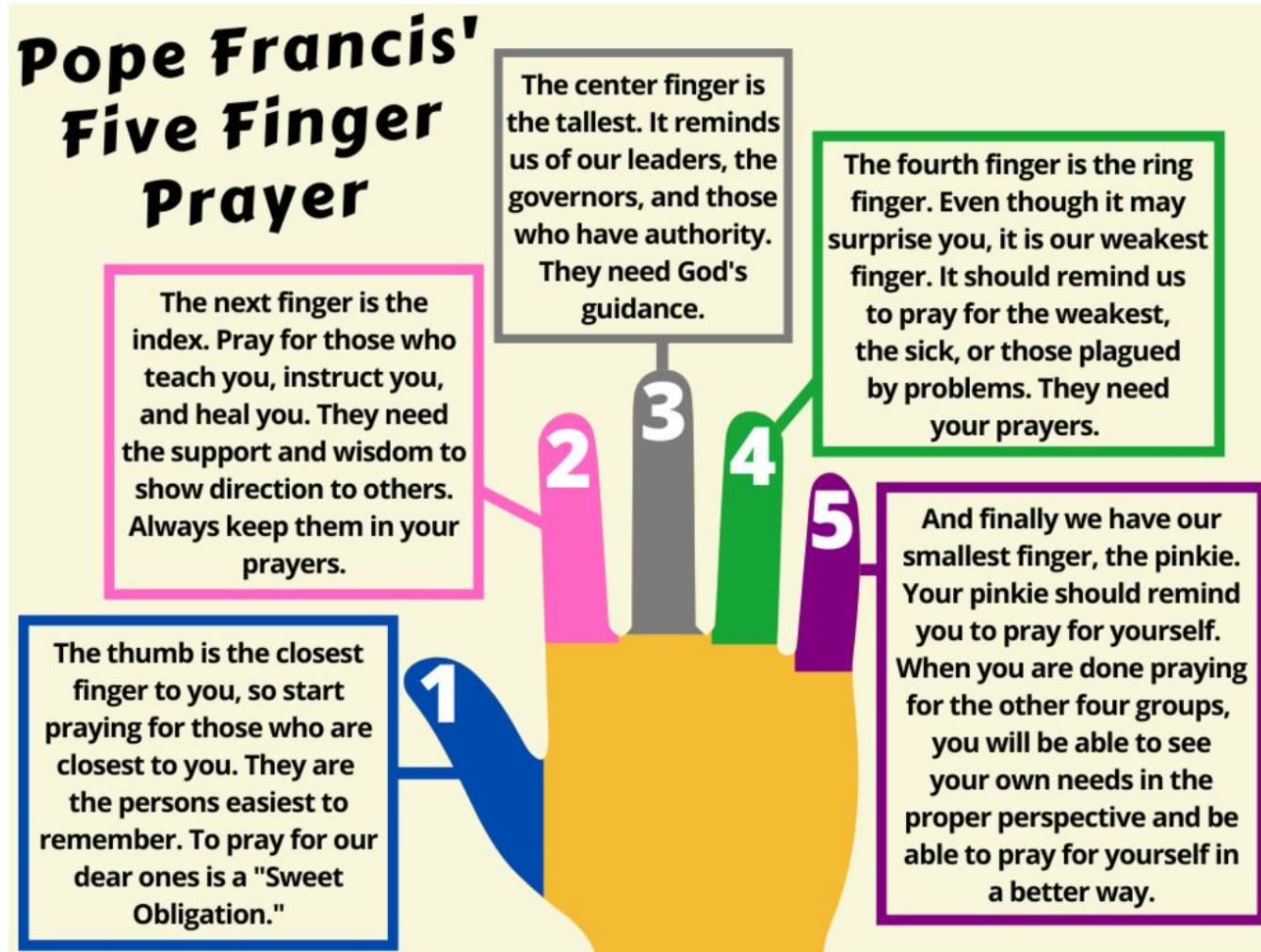
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

[Song of Hope](#)



The children were encouraged to use the 5 finger prayer that Pope Francis talked about.



The children have also been encouraged to write messages for the display in the assembly hall.

We hope that you will join in prayer to watch the funeral on Saturday 26th April at 9.00am. Follow the link: [The Vatican Live](#)



The following slides are examples of the work the children have done in class.



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## Nursery - St Mary

In Nursery, we talked about all the work Pope Francis did and how we can be more like him e.g: being kind to everyone. We lit a candle and said a prayer.



We will remember  
him in our hearts





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## Reception- St Adrian

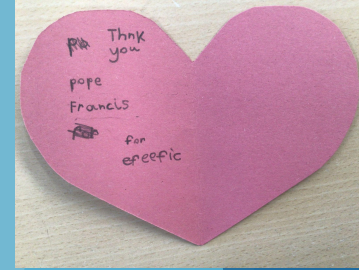
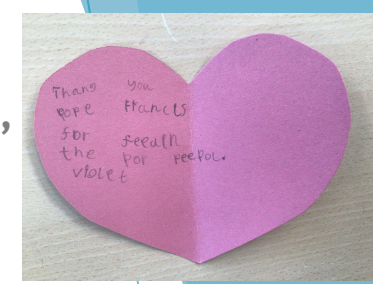
We will remember Pope Francis as a humble leader who supported the poor.



We wrote a special prayer to say, "Thank you Pope Francis for taking care of people who need the most help".



We are learning the meaning of the symbols on Pope Francis' coat of arms.





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## Year 1- St Francis of Assisi



In Year 1, we have thought about Pope Francis' legacy and his call for all people to work together to look after our world.

Dear God  
Help us to be  
Pilgrims of Hope  
for Pope  
Francis.  
Help us to build  
a better world  
for everyone.  
Help us to love  
one another and  
care for each  
other.  
Amen



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## Year 2 – St Teresa of Calcutta



In Year 2, we used Pope Francis' five finger prayer as a focus for our prayer this week.



## Year 2 – St Teresa of Calcutta

We focussed on the legacy of Pope Francis and how he has influenced our lives.  
We thought about the different ways in which we can follow in the footsteps of Pope Francis and try to follow his example.

I will be like Pope Francis when I make the world a better place by living in harmony with others.

I will be like Pope Francis if I care for creation and spread the word of God.

I will be like Pope Francis when I am a peacemaker and are kind to everyone.

*I will be like Pope Francis if I make the right choices.*

I will be like Pope Francis when I read the Bible and pray every morning and at night.

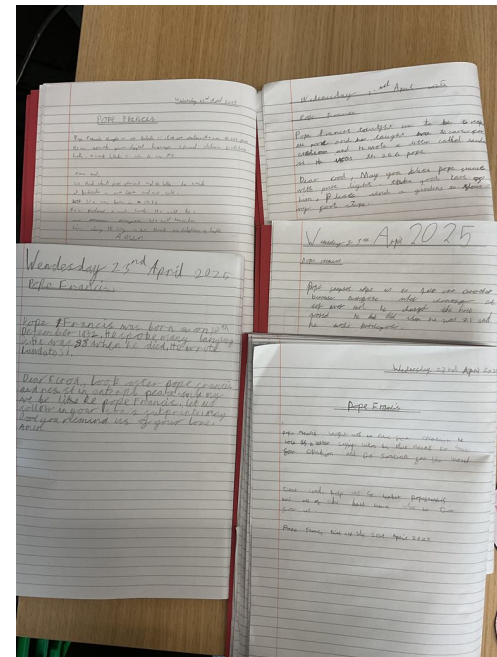
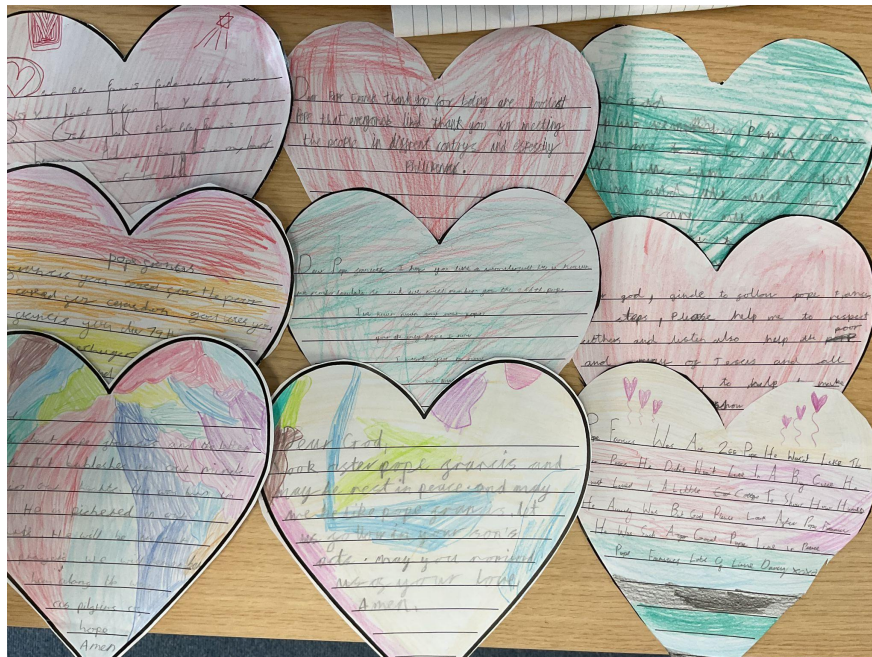
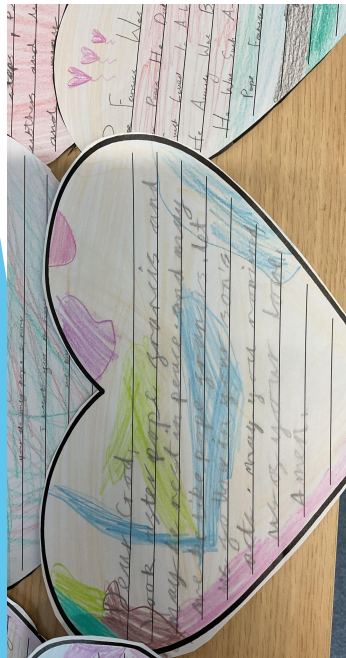
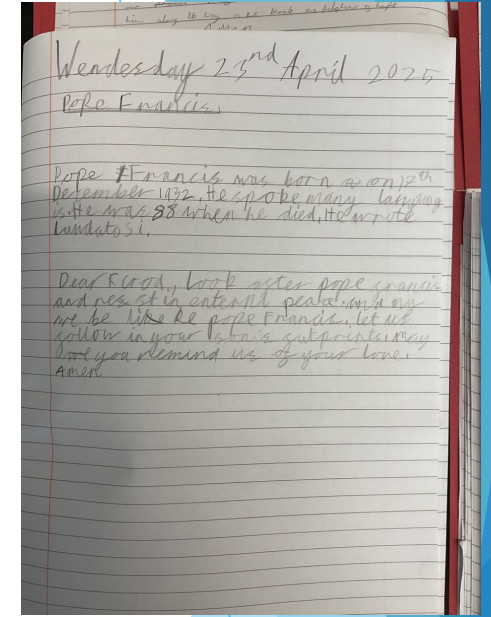


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## Year 3- St Peter

In Year 3, we took time to reflect on the life and legacy of Pope Francis, celebrating all that he had accomplished. We then engaged in a thoughtful discussion on the impact of *Laudato Si'*. To express our gratitude, we wrote heartfelt prayers in his honour.



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## Year 4 – St Alban

In Year 4, we wrote this prayer as a class. In our books we wrote our own version too. We enjoyed singing the "Laudato Si" hymn which we originally learnt for the Harvest Festival.

Dear God,

We thank you for the life of Pope Francis and all that he did. He showed us that you don't need to be rich, but can choose to live a more simple life, like Saint Francis. He encouraged us to care for creation and told us to change our ways. He gave a voice to poor people and built a "Palace for the Poor" for the homeless in the Vatican City. He learnt different languages so he could communicate with many different people and knew that talking with others is very important.

We ask you to keep Pope Francis safe in heaven and grant him everlasting rest.

Pope Francis – Requiescat in Pace.

We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus,

Amen.



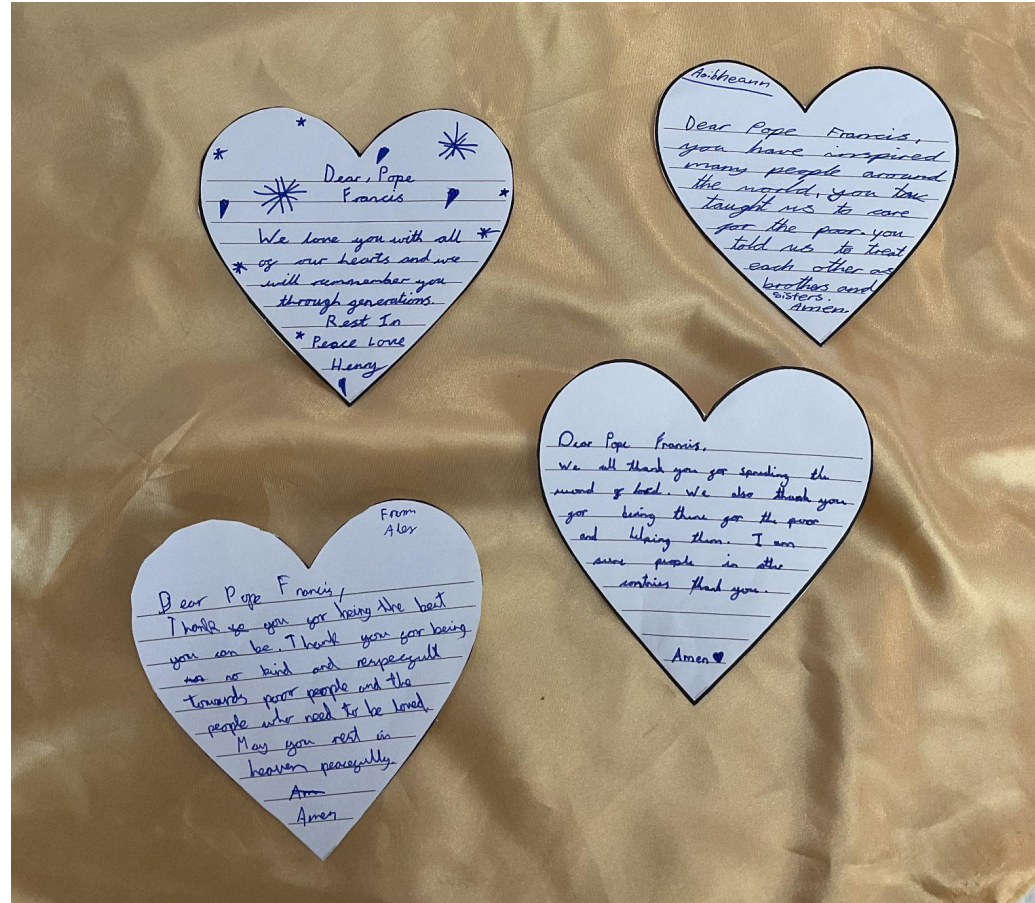


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## Year 5 - St Josephine Bakhita

In Year 5, we looked at the life and work of Pope Francis. We then wrote prayers to Pope Francis thanking him for the work he carried out.





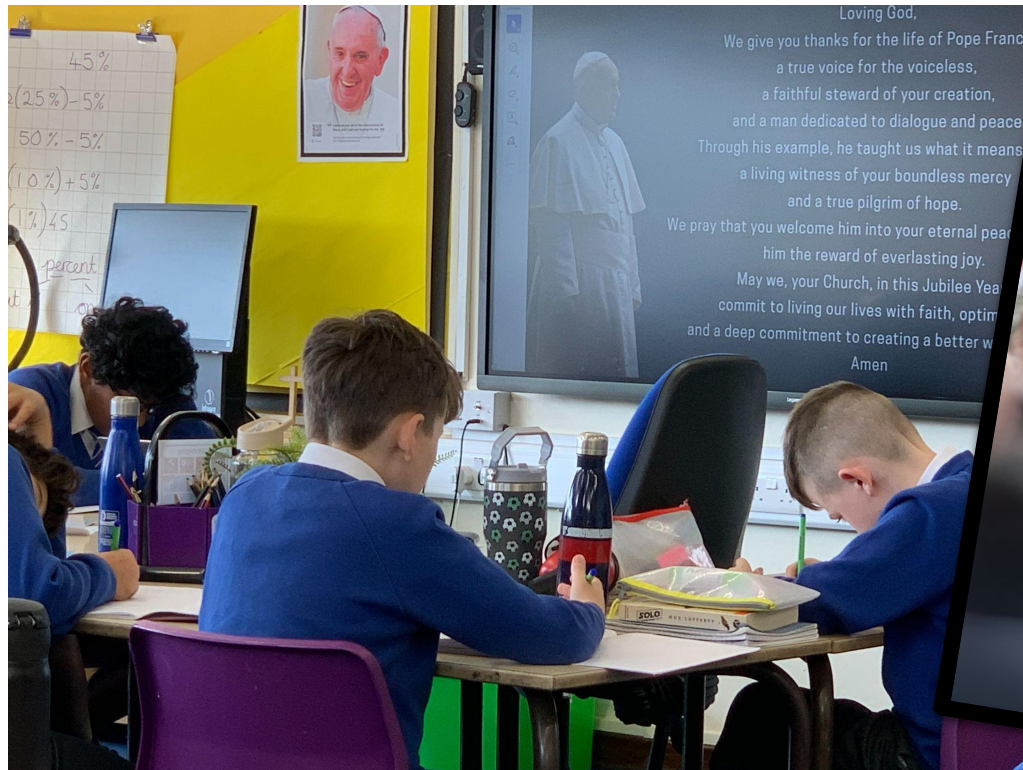
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## Year 6 – St Paul

In Year 6, we celebrated a special liturgy for Pope Francis.

We also wrote prayers thanking God for the gift of Pope Francis's example of service and love. We collected these in a class prayer book.



God Bless Pope Francis – May he rest in peace.

