

# St John Fisher News

24 January 2025 No. 616

#### Theme: Pilgrims of Hope

Today is the launch day for schools and colleges for the Jubilee year theme of Pilgrims of Hope. Through our prayers and thoughts this week we have been reflecting on what this means for us as a school



community and as individuals. During this year we pledge to stand in solidarity with the poorest communities, share our hope and joy and to take action to challenge injustice to make our world a better place. We take our journey as pilgrims of hope together as a global church and work as a school to put our faith and hope into action. This Sunday's gospel reading is Luke 4:15-21 which is an important text for the Jubilee year where Jesus talked about bringing freedom to the oppressed, sight to the blind and good news to the poor. Our students are already leading this work across school through the leadership of our House Charity Ambassadors, Chaplaincy Ambassadors, Caritas Ambassadors, SJF Champions and Sixth Form Leadership Team.

Kate Pereira, Executive Headteacher

#### **Charity Ambassadors**

Thank you to representatives from the Chaplaincy Ambassadors who led assembly this week. They shared the commitment statement that they wrote to support the pledge that we have all been given by Pope Francis. To mark the launch day, students received a book mark and sticker to remind them that we are all pilgrims of hope.

#### **Year 9 Options Evening**

A reminder that we have Year 9 Options and Parents Evening on 4 February. There will be a presentation by Mrs Helcoop and other subjects in the hall at 2.30pm and 5pm. School will finish at 2pm on this day.

#### Sprays/Aerosols

Please can we remind all students that spray perfume, body spray and deodorant are not permitted to be used in school. If students wish to use deodorant, they will need to use roll-on. This is to protect staff and students who may have an adverse reaction due to a medical condition.

Mrs Wilmore, Head of School

#### Katherine of Aragon



Today Student Leadership Team and Chaplaincy Ambassadors attended the annual Katherine of Aragon Mass at Peterborough Cathedral,

celebrated by Bishop Peter, the Bishop of East Anglia. The Mass commemorated Katherine, once Queen of England who is buried at the beautiful 12<sup>th</sup> Century Cathedral. Afterwards the congregation processed to her burial site and

joined together to say the Angelus. The students were pleased to meet Bishop Peter and enjoyed the



experience of visiting the Cathedral to attend Mass and seeing where Katherine was buried. They represented the school with pride and professionalism.

Mrs Goodfellow, Lay Chaplain

### Academic Tutoring

Year 9

20 January - 31 January 2025

#### **Year 9 Reports**

Please note Term 2 reports for Year 9 can now be accessed via the documents section of EduLink.



(O)	Upcoming Events
4 February	Year 9 Option and Parents Evening
7 February	PPE's Year II
14 February	Training Day, school closed
24 February	PPE's Year 13





## CES Chairman, the Rt. Rev. Marcus Stock invites schools to celebrate the Jubilee year

#### **Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope**

I am writing in the light of Pope Francis' request that the global Catholic community celebrate a year of Jubilee in 2025, entitled Pilgrims of Hope. In this landmark moment in the life of the global church, we are invited to celebrate the Jubilee year with "deep faith, lively hope and active charity." The theme of Jubilee 2025 is Hope: the hope that comes from knowing we are loved by God, the hope we can bring to those in most need, and the hope we can bring to our common home, the earth. There will be opportunities for the whole school community to experience the joy of sharing their faith in prayer and worship, and take action together as pilgrims of hope "in service to God's kingdom of love, justice and peace."

The Holy Year is an opportunity to offer "signs of hope" to our world: hope for peace, hope for the transmission of life, hope for those who are in prison, hope for the sick, for the young, for migrants, for the elderly, for those who are poor. The goods of the earth "are not destined for a privileged few, but for everyone." No one should go without what they need for a dignified life, no one should live without hope.

Alongside any plans offered by your own dioceses, a framework for schools to plan and celebrate the Jubilee year will be offered by three of the agencies of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales: the Catholic Education Service, CAFOD, and Caritas Social Action Network, with support from CYMFed. This framework will enable our

Catholic schools and colleges to embark on a shared journey and mark this Holy Year as a significant and memorable moment in the lives of children and young people.

#### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - Jubilee Launch Day for Schools and Colleges

Since the Jubilee begins on 24th December 2024, when educational institutions will be closed for their Christmas break, we will organise a Jubilee launch for schools and colleges on 24th January 2025. The Gospel reading for this weekend is a foundation text for the Jubilee Year, where Jesus, reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, proclaimed good news to the poor, sight for the blind, and freedom for the oppressed (Luke 4: 18-36).

Journeying through the year together, there will be an opportunity also for school and college communities to make a Jubilee Pledge, a long-term commitment to the common good and look outwards, advancing justice and harmony. In the light of this commitment, there is also an invitation to refresh and renew the mission statement of their school or college.

### Friday 21st Nov 2025 – Jubilee Celebration Day for Schools and Colleges

Towards the end of the Jubilee year, we will join together in celebrating our shared journeys of "deep faith, lively hope and active charity", looking to the future with renewed hope and commitment.

Rooted in the Old Testament, the celebration of a Jubilee has always been a time of reconciliation and renewal, where equality was restored to all God's children, slaves were set free, debts were cancelled, and the land was allowed to rest and recover.



#### Rt. Rev. Marcus Stock

Bishop of Leeds, Chair of the Department of Catholic Education & Formation, Chair of the Catholic Education Service.

