

# THIS WEEK AT ST FAITH'S

## 13th May 2022

Looking ahead to the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, the choral and orchestral sounds of the national anthem have been audible around school, as our musicians complete their rehearsals. Meanwhile pupils in Years 3-8 are also busy preparing class concerts for the week beginning 23rd May, and the final preparations for the Year 8 production of 'Sister Act' are also well under way. Based on what I have seen and heard to date, we have some outstanding performances to enjoy before half term.

## Record Number of Scholarship Awards for 2022

We have now received the results of all pupil Scholarship assessments and I am delighted to let you know that this year, 37 awards have been achieved across the curriculum. This remarkable figure represents a new school record. Such success reflects the outstanding quality of teaching and learning which the children have received during their time at St Faith's, as well as their sustained commitment and keen application to prepare for their assessments. Encouragement from home is also invaluable to enable the children to develop their confidence in their chosen scholarship areas, and we are grateful for all parents do to support the children throughout their education at St Faith's.

A full list of curriculum awards and a photo of the successful pupils will be published in next week's newsletter.

## Little Inventor Day

On Monday, the Year 2 pupils enjoyed a 'Little Inventor' day. They spent time in our 'workshop', having a taste of what will be in store for them when they start Engineering lessons in Year 3. Problem solving, teamwork and new inventions were all in evidence. As the children have been studying the 'Secret World of Plants and Insects', their challenge was to invent a brand new plant. They could choose what type of environment it would grow in and how it might protect itself from being eaten. They even considered how their plants might encourage pollinating animals and insects to visit them. A highlight of the activity for the Year 2 children was being joined by Year 6 and Year 8 pupils, to work alongside with them in their teams to help them realise their inventions.

The second challenge for the pupils was to imagine they had been shrunk down to the size of a 'Lego' figure and that they must live alongside the small insects in our undergrowth. To meet this challenge, they had to design and build a suitable habitat together with a method of

transportation. In this highly creative activity, they were ably assisted by a class of our Year 5 children. The imagination and the variety of designs on display was superb. They really were excellent Little Inventors!

## Year 8 'Rebecca' Exhibition

During the Lent Term, some of our Year 8 pupils have been undertaking a book study in which they have been encouraged to create a portfolio of cross-curricular tasks, inspired by Daphne du Maurier's novel *Rebecca*.

In response to this remit, as well as the insightful analysis of different characters, themes and symbolism, pupils elected to research and create botanical guides to the 'Manderley' estate, as well as create their own crosswords based on the novel. Pupils also researched the food and clothing of the 1930s and they created their own Top Trumps for characters, as well as making illustrations and craft items relevant to the book. I greatly enjoyed my visit to view the impressive range of high quality presentations in our annual '**Rebecca Exhibition**', which parents also came to see. I had some interesting speculative discussions with the Year 8 pupils about the possible name of the narrator in the novel.