

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Ipswich

`Living and Learning through Faith`

July 2025







Year R



We had the most fabulous Artsweek and one of the children's favourite projects was creating Ozzie the owl from paper mache, card, feathers and material. We were inspired by the Artwork of Eric Carle and also made our own 'Very Hungry Caterpillars' with wire and beads.

We have loved baking bread this year! We have made all different types, from banana bread to cinnamon and raisin bread. We have become so independent in mixing the ingredients ourselves and knowing what to do before we prepare

food. And of course the best bit was taste-testing it!

We also had an amazing time on our school trip to Jimmy's Farm. We learnt about all sorts of different animals from around the world. One of our favourite enclosures was the two brown bears.



In maths, we have been learning how to use a *Rekenrek bead frame* and *tens frames with counters* to support our understanding of number. These tools help the children to "see" numbers within numbers for example, when making 8, we might use a row of 5 counters and then 3 more. This visual approach also supports our work on adding single-digit numbers together, helping the children to develop strong number sense and confidence in early addition.

Wow, what a busy term we have had working and playing hard!

In English, we have read so many fantastic books over the course of this term and year. We loved 'The Snail and the Whale' and use this text to explore sizes (large and small, tall and short). We also loved the story of Anasai and the Golden pot. The children really enjoyed learning lots about Ghana. For Artsweek we explored the book 'Luna loves Art', this inspired us in many ways and we discussed many famous Artists like Van Gogh, Picasso, Andy Warhol, and Jackson Pollock. Each week we have written sentences about our stories and tried to use the key vocabulary that we have picked out. The children are really good at using their phonics knowledge to sound out words and write them down.

In PSHE, we have learnt about the internet and tablet safety. We learnt a song to the rhyme of 'Frere Jacques' to help us remember to always ask an adult if we see something we don't like or doesn't feel right.

In RE, we have learnt about Pentecost and the Holy Spirit and we let balloons go to represent Jesus going up to heaven. We have also learnt that we are one community, with many different faiths and that we can all talk about this together.

Finally, in Music, we have been learning so many songs with Mrs MJ! Some of our favourites are 'Mr Crocodile', 'Walking in the rain' and the 'My name is..' song. The children have really listened carefully and can clap rhythms and also use their voices to create effect and drama. In class, we have also taught the children the Makaton version of 'A thousand Years', which they may have come home singing to you.