



Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope

Tuesday 7th January 2025

Dear parents / carers,

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."¹ 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."²

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."³ 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 24th 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

¹ Pope Francis, *Letter to Msgr. Rino Fisichella, resident of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, for the Jubilee 2025*

² *Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the 61st World Day of Prayer for Vocations*, 21 April 2024

³ Pope Francis, *Spes Non Confundit, Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025*, 16

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 21 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. It is an invitation for a special encounter with Jesus, the “door” of our salvation, and an opportunity to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation. We are called upon to live out Catholic Social Teaching: to be agents of justice and peace, to act where human beings are tied down by poverty, loneliness, exclusion, discrimination, suffering of any kind, to restore dignity and hope and to challenge the causes of poverty.

Pope Francis reminds us that for Christians, happiness is not some fleeting pleasure that keeps us longing for more, but rather, “We aspire to a happiness that is definitively found in the one thing that can bring us fulfilment, which is love. Thus we will be able to say even now: I am loved, therefore I exist; and I will live forever in the love that does not disappoint.”⁴

For the children and young people in our schools, and for the rest of society, this is the message of Jubilee 2025. Life is not hopeless, despite its challenges. Life is the gift of a loving God who calls us in Christ to love, peace and justice in this world, and eternal communion with him in the next.

For more information about the letter from Pope Francis please visit:

<https://www.iubilaum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/lettera-di-papa-francesco.html>

Visit CAFOD for some lovely resources you could use at home as we will also in school:

<https://cafod.org.uk/jubilee-schools>

Click here for a short video for parents:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=via25rOML2Q&t=13s>

We will communicate all information regarding our Jubilee Year of Hope celebrations via our school newsletters and our RE Catholic Life of the School website. All the Jubilee resources I have ordered will be shared with our children and yourselves and sent home over the coming weeks. Below are some key dates for our Jubilee Year 2025, our Mission for our Jubilee Launch and Pledge along with our Jubilee Icon and Prayer.

I hope you will agree and participate in making this holy year significant and memorable in our faith journey during 2025! In the meantime, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to ask your class teacher or myself.

With blessing and kind regards,

Netta Costanzo

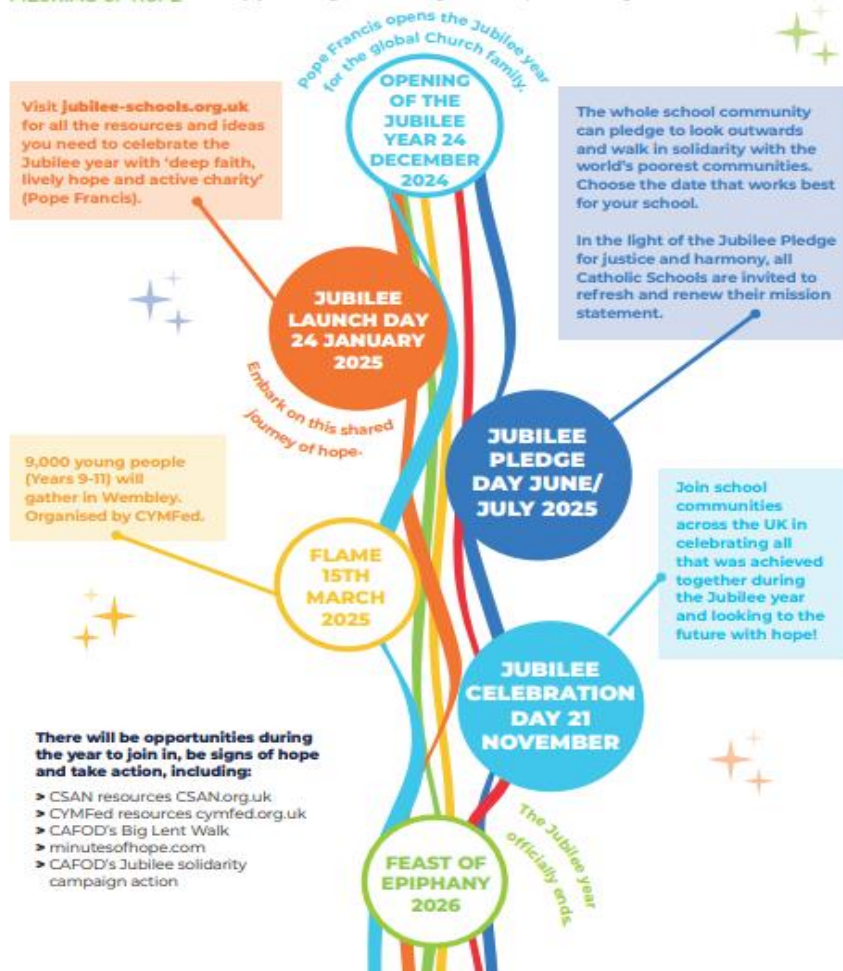
Deputy Headteacher

SENDCo & Inclusion, Mental Health Lead & RE support Lead



Jubilee for schools 2025 key dates

In this Jubilee year, Pope Francis invites us all to be signs of hope in our world and this holy year will be a significant and memorable moment for children and young people. Reflecting on Jesus' message of the good news of justice, freedom and love, there are opportunities for the whole school community to experience the joy of taking action as Pilgrims of Hope in building a better world.



Jubilee Pledge 2025:

We are pilgrims of hope.

We walk in solidarity with our sisters and brothers worldwide, sharing challenges and celebrating joys.

We promise to be agents of change, working together for justice, love and peace, locally and globally.

We want to build a fairer world, where every person, and the earth, can flourish.

As pilgrims of hope, we are on a mission to build a world where:

- We recognise the dignity of every person, loved and created by God.
- We follow the example of Jesus' love and his mission to bring good news 'to the poor'. (Luke 4)
- We work for the common good of all, understanding that our actions impact our local and global family because we are all interconnected.
- We are good stewards of the earth, knowing that the earth's gifts are for everyone, not just for a privileged few.
- We prepare a path to peace in our world, challenging the root causes of poverty and injustice.
- We speak out for debt relief, to set free those who are burdened by unjust debt.
- We work together with CAFOD and our local Caritas to be practical signs of hope and put love into action.



*This Jubilee icon was painted by
Mulugeta Araya from Ethiopia.*

Jubilee 2025

We are pilgrims of hope!

**During this Jubilee year
we are taking action to
build a fairer world.**

jubilee-schools.org.uk



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A prayer of hope

God, our loving Father,
in this Jubilee Year,
you remind us of our call to love creation.
Help us to work together
to replant, repair, and renew.

**Guide us on our journey
as pilgrims of hope.**

Jesus, our light,
In this Jubilee Year,
you remind us of our call to love
our neighbours
and to set free those who suffer.
Help us to treat everyone with dignity;
to be fair, forgiving and kind.

**Guide us on our journey
as pilgrims of hope.**

Holy Spirit, our inspiration,
in this Jubilee Year, you remind us of our
call to grow in faith and love.
Help us to hear you in scripture, to see
Jesus in others,
and to be united as God's global family.

**Guide us on our journey
as pilgrims of hope.**

Amen

Written in
collaboration with Missio.



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