

APRIL 2024

BENEFICE

MAGAZINE

The Pew News

**INSIDE THE
BENEFICE.
EASTER
EDITION**

SERVING THE PARISHES OF ALDERMASTON – BEENHAM
BRIMPTON – MIDGHAM – WASING AND WOOLHAMPTON

NEWS PAGES

For this month's letter from our Rector, the Reverend Jane Manley, or news and articles from our churches and communities, Eco Church, food bank or benefice administration.

SERVICES

Services throughout the benefice, Special events in Church and details of reading.

BENEFICE ADMINISTRATION

Occasional notices. Safeguarding information, inclusion or equality notices and more.

CONTENTS

LIFE EVENTS

Here you'll find details of all the weddings, baptisms and funerals that have taken place across the benefice.

CHILDREN

News from our schools, special events, competitions, information and lots more for our younger, and young at heart, readers.

ADVERTISING

We are happy to include advertisements of services and local events for small businesses, charities and organisation. This service is free of charge.



NEWS FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Friends

As I write this Easter is almost upon us – in just a few days we will be celebrating the Resurrection of Christ. That journey through the Triduum will be over. Once again you can take up the chocolate, biscuits or wine that you have perhaps given up for Lent; put away the Lenten reading that you meant to do but didn't get beyond page 4; the roast lamb will be consumed; the Easter eggs eaten. Life will return to normal. Is that it?

It certainly wasn't like that for those first disciples. For them, nothing would ever be the same again. Jesus, the man they had faithfully followed, the man who had perplexed them, the man who had died – had now risen from the dead. As he said he would. How can life ever be the same again for them?


And how can it ever be the same again for us. We who follow in the footsteps of Peter, John, Mary and the other disciples – can our lives return to 'normal' – I hope not! We are Resurrection people – living out the Gospel message of the Resurrection – of hope. So, do we carry on and soon forget about Easter – when is the next Bank Holiday? Or do we truly live out our faith as Resurrection people for:

'the resurrection, ultimately, is for people who are hungry for life. It's for those who are prepared to come alive to the vast, embracing love of God, to the glory and tragedy of the world, to the potential of Christ within each of us.

But without the resurrection, we would never have known...'

CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

**With blessings
Revd Jane**



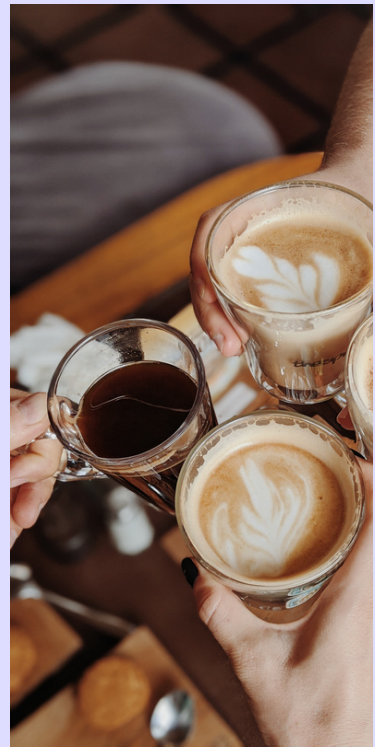
COFFEE MORNING

(SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH)
IN BRIMPTON CHURCH

DROP IN ANY TIME BETWEEN
10:00 am-11:30 am

WEDNESDAY 10th April 2024
WEDNESDAY 8th May 2024
WEDNESDAY 12th June 2024

Everyone (including dogs) welcome



www.awb.org.uk



NEWBURY Spring FESTIVAL

11 - 25 May 2024

two weeks of world-class music
newburyspringfestival.org.uk



www.awb.org.uk

BRIMPTON CHURCH 100 CLUB

Thank you to everyone who supports Brimpton Church through the 100 Club. The last draw for this year will take place in April, and we will start again with a new round in May.

HOW TO JOIN

Please contact Patricia Brims on 0118 9714085 or email pcbrims@hotmail.com before the end of April.

Your number(s) will be put into the draw every month for a year.

£12

As usual, each number costs £12 for the year. A number is drawn every month.

£30

The holder of the winning number wins a cash prize of £30!

PAYMENT

BACS transfer - Brimpton PCC 100 Club Sort Code 30:96:96
A/c # 04419615. Please use your name as the BACS reference.

Or

Cash or cheque for £12 per number, payable to Brimpton PCC 100 Club and take or send to Patricia Brims, Brimpton Lodge, Wasing Road, RG7 4TG

THE 100 CLUB RAISES OVER £1400 FOR THE CHURCH EACH YEAR,
WHICH MAKES A FANTASTIC DIFFERENCE.



BRIMPTON CHURCH 100 CLUB

DECEMBER WINNER:
NO. 98 CARO HACKING

JANUARY WINNER:
NO. 162 JENNY VERITY

FEBRUARY WINNER:
NO. 67 CHRIS AND SUE KEAST

THE 100 CLUB RAISES OVER £1400 FOR THE CHURCH EACH YEAR,
WHICH MAKES A FANTASTIC DIFFERENCE.



A photograph of several potted plants on a wooden shelf. The plants include a succulent in a white pot, a small aloe vera in an orange pot, and a fern in a white pot. The background is a blurred indoor setting.

Plant Sale

St Peter's Church

Brimpton

Saturday 18th May

10am - Noon

**Donations of labelled plants welcome,
in advance or on the day.**

**Refreshments and raffle -
Proceeds to St Peter's Church**

Feb 2024 Occasional Services

Weddings

10th February Andrew Mason
and Imogen Parker at St
Nicholas, Wasing

24th February Matthew Carter
and Stacey Kirkham at St
Nicholas, Wasing

24th February Thomas Rumble
and Laura Spiers at St Peter's,
Woolhampton

**'And now faith, hope, and love
abide, these three: and the
greatest of these is love'**

Baptisms

25th February Thomas
William Johnson, son of
Robert and Cheryl
Johnson at St Nicholas,
Wasing

**'Today God has touched
you with his love and
given you a place among
his people'**

Funerals

31st January
Burial of Elijah King at St
Mary the Virgin,
Aldermaston

**'I am the resurrection
and the life,' says the
Lord.**



March 2024 Occasional Services Weddings

1 st March Richard Clarke and Cerys Anthony
at St Nicholas, Wasing

9 th March Shaun Thomas and Ruth Porter
at St Nicholas, Wasing

16 th March Steven Armstrong and Rhiannon Lee
at St Nicholas, Wasing

22 nd March Calum Raymond and Anna-Melissa Mendes Bishop
at St Nicholas, Wasing

23 rd March Andrew Routledge and Alice O'Sullivan
at St Nicholas, Wasing

'And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three: and the greatest of these is love'

Funerals

12th March The Funeral of Gillian Baron at
St Peter's, Woolhampton

14th March The Burial of Ashes of Keith
Bennett at St Matthew's, Midgham

21st March The Memorial Service of
Barbara Bailey at St Mary the Virgin,
Aldermaston

23rd March The Burial of Gillian Rowley at
St March the Virgin, Aldermaston

**'I am the resurrection and the life,' says
the Lord.**





ORGAN RECITAL

SATURDAY

**1ST | 6
JUNE | PM**

BY GILL BLYTHMAN

ST MATTHEWS MIDGHAM

Followed by refreshments

ALL WELCOME

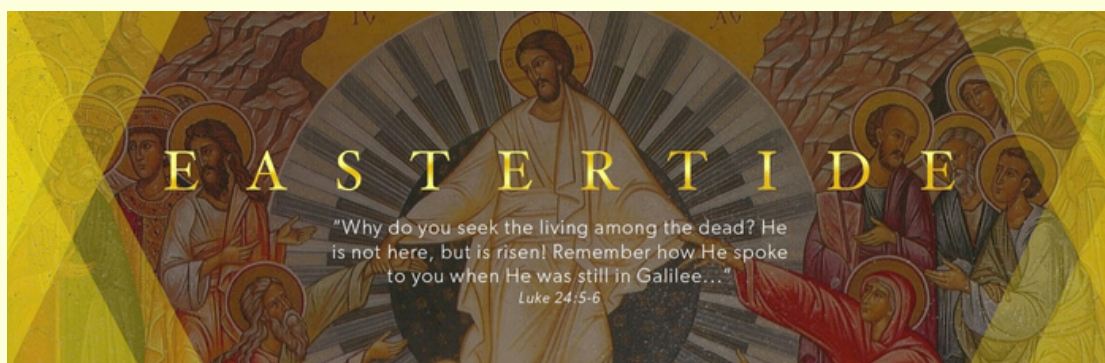


**ALDERMASTON AND
WOOLHAMPTON BENEFICE**

Services during April

**ALDERMASTON
BEENHAM
BRIMPTON
MIDGHAM
WASING
WOOLHAMPTON**

www.awb.org.uk



Sunday 7th April: The Second Sunday of Easter

St Nicholas, Wasing 10am Benefice Holy Communion

Sunday 14th April: The Third Sunday of Easter

St Mary's, Aldermaston 10.45am Holy Communion

St Mary's, Beenham 9.15am Morning Praise

St Peter's, Brimpton 9.15am Morning Praise

St Peter's, Woolhampton 10.45am Holy Communion

Sunday 21st April: The Fourth Sunday of Easter

St Mary's, Aldermaston 10.45am Holy Communion

St Peter's, Brimpton 9.15am Holy Communion

St Matthew's, Midgham 9.15am Holy Communion

St Peter's, Woolhampton 10.45am Holy Communion

Sunday 28th April: The Fifth Sunday of Easter

St Mary's Beenham 9.15am Holy Communion

St Peter's, Brimpton 10.45am Holy Communion

St Matthew's, Midgham 5pm Sung Evensong

St Peter's, Woolhampton 10.45am Holy Communion

For further details contact: The Rev'd Jane Manley 01189 712 891

jmanley.awb@gmail.com

www.awb.org.uk



Maundy Thursday, 28th March at 7.30pm
St Mary the Virgin, Aldermaston Holy Communion
with washing of feet

Good Friday, 29th March at 11am
St Matthew's, Midgham Children's service with craft

Good Friday, 29th March at 2pm
St Peter's, Woolhampton The Hour at the Cross

Holy Saturday, 30th March at 8.30pm
St Nicholas, Wasing Easter Vigil with Holy Communion

Everyone is welcome to any of our services.
We aim to be entirely inclusive, if there is something you
need in order to ensure church is a welcoming and
comfortable place for you, please let us know.

www.awb.org.uk



31st March

**St Mary the Virgin, Aldermaston 10.45am
Family Communion**

**St Mary, Beenham 9.15am
Family Communion**

**St Peter, Brimpton 10.45am
Family Communion**

**St Matthew, Midgham 9.15am
Family Communion**

**St Peter, Woolhampton 10.45am
Family Communion**

www.awb.org.uk



Sunday readings

APRIL 2024

	NEW TESTAMENT	GOSPEL	COLOUR
SUNDAY 7TH APRIL 2024 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	ACTS 4.32-35	JOHN 20.19-END	WHITE
SUNDAY 14TH APRIL 2024 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	ACTS 3.12-19	LUKE 24.36B-48	WHITE
SUNDAY 21ST APRIL 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	ACTS 4.5-12	JOHN 10.11-18	WHITE
SUNDAY 24TH MARCH 2024			
SUNDAY 28TH APRIL 2024 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	ACTS 8.26-END	JOHN 15.1-8	WHITE



West Berkshire Food Bank

0808 208 2138

**Free phone service open
Monday to Friday 9am-5pm**

Closed on public holidays

**The Help through Hardship helpline is
a free phone service
delivered in partnership with Trussell
Trust and Citizens Advice.**

**If you're worried about money and struggling to afford
essentials, call our free helpline for personalised support**



URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS

Details of items urgently needed and low in stock
can be found by visiting
<https://westberks.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

WHEN PEOPLE ARE GOING WITHOUT.... IT IS TIME TO GUARANTEE THEIR ESSENTIALS



Drop off locations:

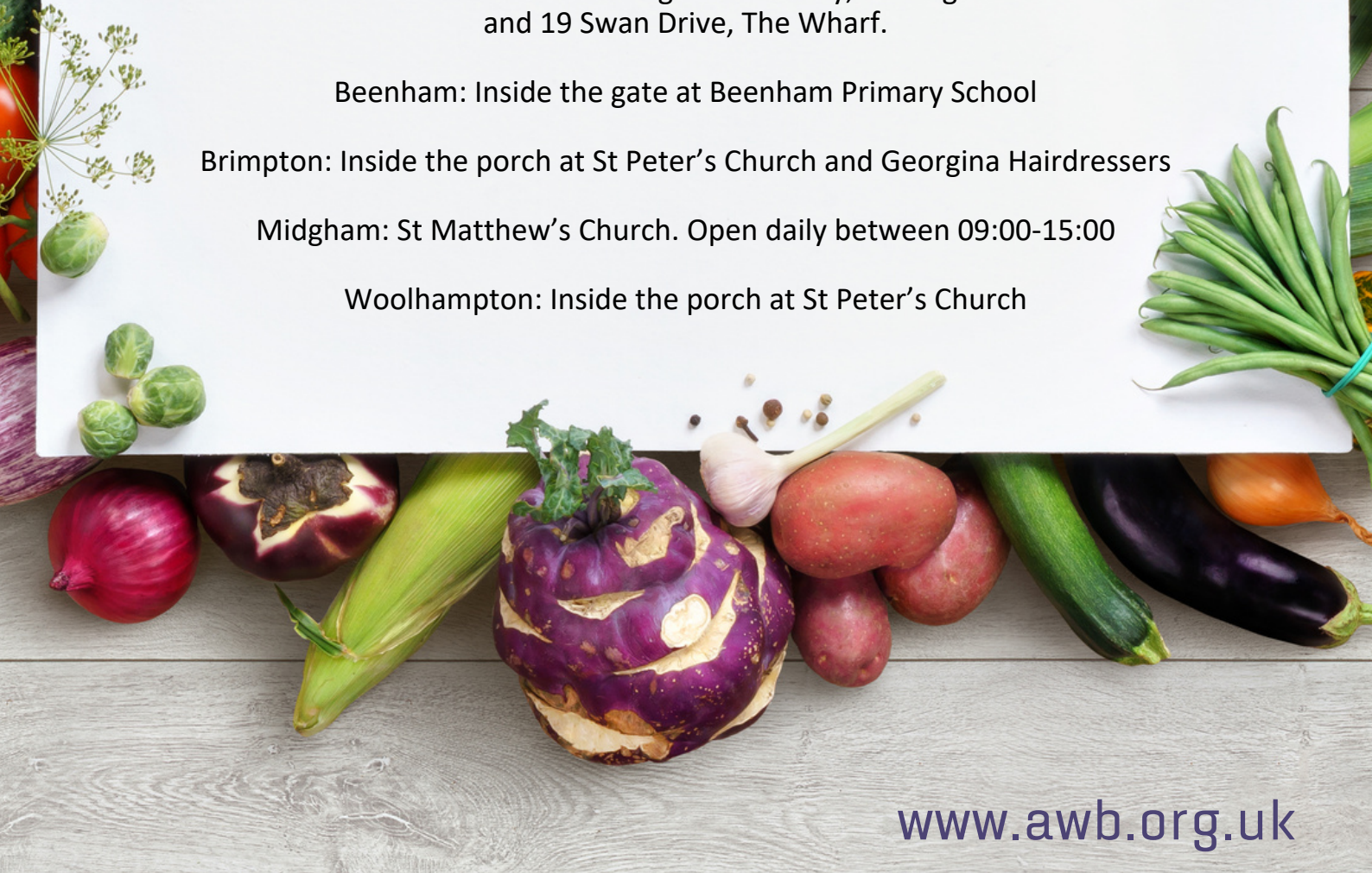
Aldermaston and Wasing: The Rectory, Wasing Lane
and 19 Swan Drive, The Wharf.

Beenham: Inside the gate at Beenham Primary School

Brimpton: Inside the porch at St Peter's Church and Georgina Hairdressers

Midgham: St Matthew's Church. Open daily between 09:00-15:00

Woolhampton: Inside the porch at St Peter's Church



KOOL

‘The Poisonwood Bible’ is an epic novel of a family’s tragic undoing and efforts to rebuild what’s been lost.

Nathan Price, an extreme evangelical Baptist, decides to take his wife, four daughters to go out to the Belgian Congo at the beginning of the 1960s. They went with what they considered the essentials to settle in the new country but soon realised that all that was useless and their lives would be changed forever. It took me a while to get into this book, but halfway through (it is over 600 pages long) I was completely absorbed into their lives and how Africa changed them all. Having spent the first 25 years of my life in Africa I was able to appreciate how the spirit of that continent never leaves you.

Barbara Kingsolver is an American novelist. She is the only author to win the Women’s Prize for Fiction twice, both for ‘the Lacuna’ in 2010 and ‘Demon Copperfield’ in 2023. She has also won the PEN/Faulkner prize for fiction and the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for Fiction.



Book review

by Rev.
Jane

FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES



WORSHIP ON WEEKDAYS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

17 th April, 8 th May, 5th June

9.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.

St. Peter's Woolhampton, RG7 5TB

Join us as we come together for WOW!
This relaxed, informal and friendly session
starts with tea, toast and toys and a
chance for parents, grandparents and carers
to get together for a chat.

A short, informal worship starts at 9.30 am
and we finish it all off with cake! What
better way to spend a Wednesday morning?
FUN, FRIENDLY, FREE

You are warmly invited to our Good Friday Children's Service

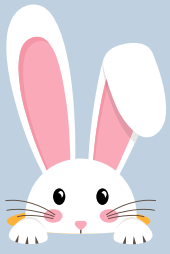
On 29 th March 2024 at 11am
at St Matthew's Midgham

The service will last an hour,
including craft and refreshments

For further details please contact
Revd Jane on 0118 9712 891
jmanley.awb@gmail.com



www.awb.org.uk



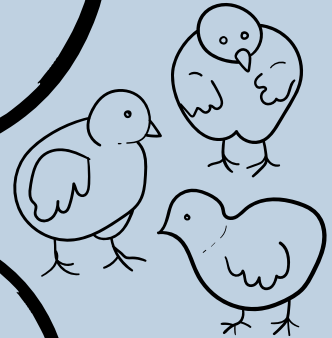
WHY DO WE CELEBRATE EASTER?



Easter marks the culmination of the Passion of Jesus, occurring after 40 days of Lent where Christians fast, pray and undertake acts of penance. Easter is considered the holiest day of the year.

Easter is a Christian holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. According to Christian history, Jesus was crucified on a Friday (Good Friday) and rose again three days later on Easter Sunday.

Easter, is a Christian festival and cultural holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, described in the New Testament as having occurred on the third day of his burial following his crucifixion by the Romans at Calvary c. 30 AD.L.



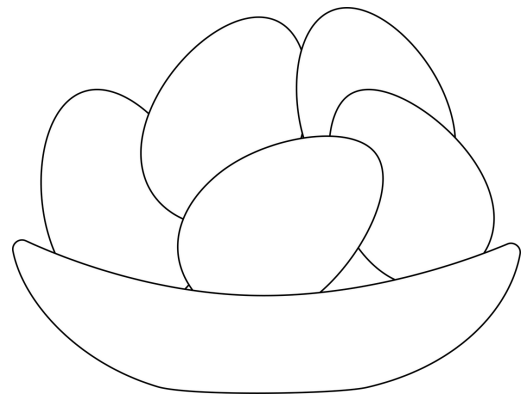
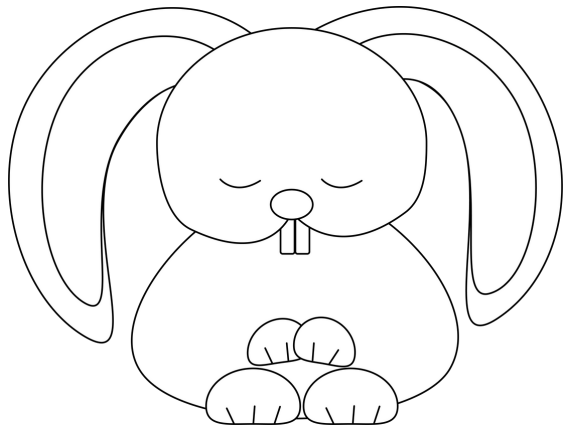
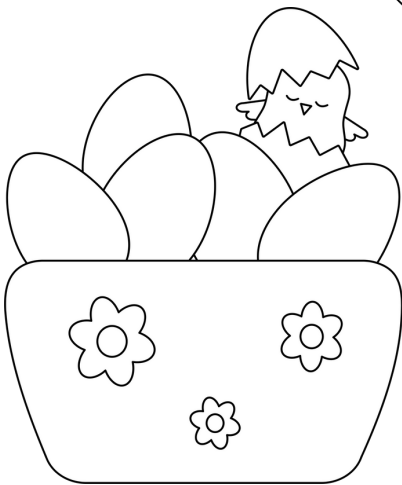
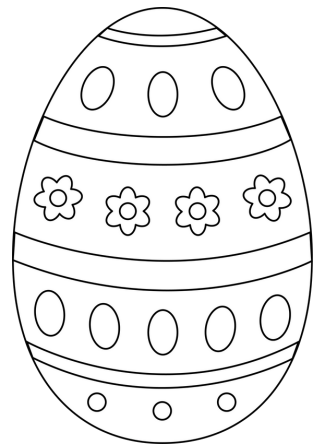
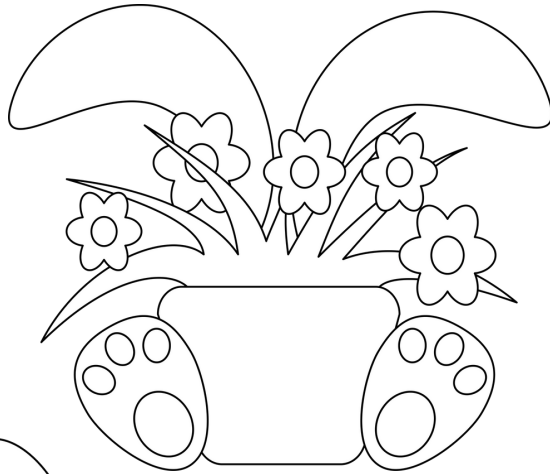
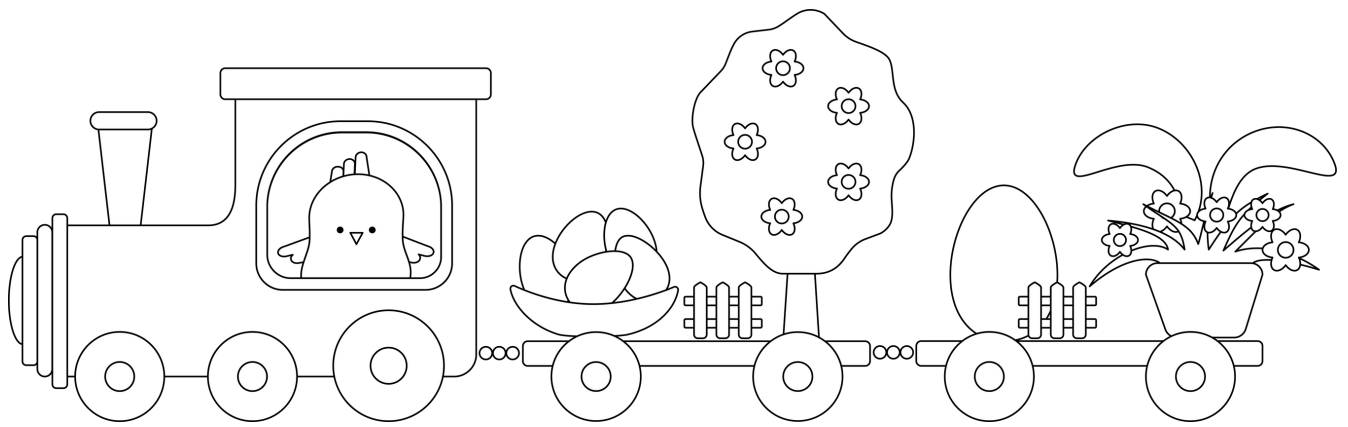
Jesus' resurrection is essentially the foundation upon which Christian religions are built. Christians believe that Jesus was arrested by the Romans because he claimed to be the son of God.

Eggs represent life and rebirth, and in Christianity, this became associated with Jesus's crucifixion and resurrection. Early Christian communities of Mesopotamia stained eggs red in memory of Jesus, beginning the tradition. Today, it's common to give out chocolate eggs for Easter.

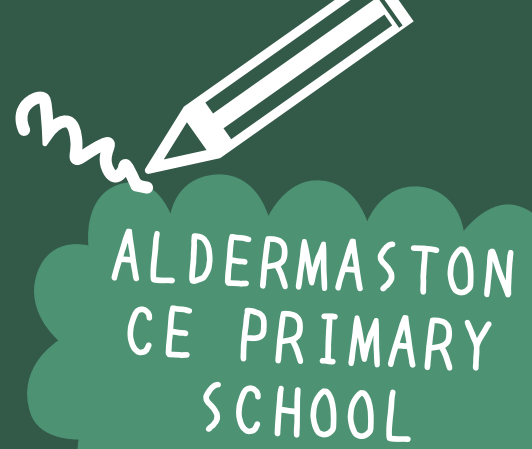
Easter is the celebration of Jesus conquering death when he was resurrected from the dead, and this is connected with the celebration of spring arriving and bringing new life, leaving the cold winter behind.



HAPPY EASTER



SCHOOL NEWS



ALDERMASTON
CE PRIMARY
SCHOOL

THIS TERM OUR VALUE FOCUS FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIPS IS TRUST. CHILDREN HAVE ALREADY BEEN THINKING ABOUT WHO THEY TRUST AND HOW WE KNOW IF SOMEONE IS TRUSTWORTHY. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY AT HOME TO DISCUSS TRUSTED ADULTS IN YOUR CHILDREN'S LIVES AND PEOPLE THEY CAN TALK WITH. OUR CHOSEN BIBLE STORIES LOOK AT THE DISCIPLES' TRUST IN JESUS AND HOW PEOPLE HAVE ACHIEVED GREAT THINGS WHEN SUPPORTED BY THEIR FAITH IN GOD.

OUR LEARNING HERO IS THE REFLECTOR OWL WHO CHAMPIONS DEMOCRACY IN OUR SCHOOL. STAFF AT SCHOOL WILL BE CELEBRATING THE KEY LEARNING SKILLS OF REFLECTING, CHECKING, RESPONDING AND IMPROVING AND THEY WILL BE HELPING CHILDREN TO RECOGNISE WHEN THEY'VE DEMONSTRATED THESE SKILLS.

WHAT AN AMAZING TIME OUR ROBINS CLASS (YEARS 1 & 2) HAD WHEN THEY VISITED BUCKLEBURY FARM PARK RECENTLY. THIS TRIP HAD BEEN CAREFULLY PLANNED TO LINK IN WITH THEIR GEOGRAPHY CURRICULUM AND THE CHILDREN LEARNT LOTS ABOUT THE DIFFERENT ANIMALS AT THE FARM AND HOW THEY ARE LOOKED AFTER BY THEIR KEEPERS. THEY ALSO MADE GREAT USE OF THE PLAY EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE. THEY WERE BUZZING WITH INFORMATION WHEN THEY RETURNED AND KEEN TO TELL EVERYBODY ABOUT WHAT THEY HAD SEEN. AND EXPERIENCED ON THE TRIP. IT SEEMS THE DEER WERE A PARTICULAR FAVOURITE!

WE'RE SO PROUD OF HOW MUCH OUR CHILDREN ENJOY BEING ACTIVE. OVER ONE THIRD OF OUR KS2 CHILDREN ARE CURRENTLY TRAINING TWICE A WEEK IN SCHOOL TO TAKE PART IN THE WEST BERKSHIRE AND NORTH HANTS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS. OUR YEAR 3 CHILDREN ARE CONTINUING TO MAKE GREAT PROGRESS IN THEIR SWIMMING LESSONS AND THIS TERM YEAR 3, 4 AND YEAR 5 CHILDREN ARE RECEIVING WEEKLY TAG RUGBY COACHING SESSIONS FROM TADLEY TIGERS RUGBY CLUB. IN ADDITION, YEARS 1, 2 AND 6 ARE RECEIVING EXTERNAL COACHING IN BAT AND BALL SKILLS THIS TERM. IT'S FAIR TO SAY THAT THE KS2 FOOTBALL CLUB IS ALSO QUITE POPULAR.

CATHY JONES, FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

The first half of the Spring Term has flown by at Woolhampton, it was a very short term but signs of Spring are all around us now and the children have been participating in some very exciting events and experiences.

We were very fortunate to have Don Rae from the Don Rae Academy of Movement and Arts join the school leading a series of workshops where the children learnt about the culture of China and the spring festival of Lunar New Year through traditional dance and folktales.

After the workshop, the children continued their learning in class where they were given the opportunity to sample some traditional Chinese food such as rice and noodles. At the end of the day, the children and staff came together for a special assembly to celebrate and share their learning. Thank you to Mrs Smith for arranging this.

Our sporting exploits within the wider community have also been a high point of this term, with our Netball Club participating in a Netball Festival led by Year 8 pupils at Elstree School. Our team had a fantastic time, playing matches against children from five other schools - great fun!

Twenty of our children from across Key Stage 2 were invited to participate in a Cross Country running event at Bradfield College. There were four different races with Juniors running 1.2km and Seniors running 2km! All of the children gave it their best - well done! Thank you to Mrs Javes for organising our participation in these events.

Our Friends of Woolhampton School (FoWS) organised another successful posie making morning ahead of Mothering Sunday where, for a small donation, all children could create a posie to take home for someone special. Thank you to everyone who donated jars, ribbons and flowers and their time to enable this event to go ahead.

Sarah Fenwick-Stubbs
Woolhampton Primary Foundation Governor, PCC

WOOLHAMPTON
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Mrs Lorraine Weight MBE
January 1934 – November 2023

We were saddened to share the news of Mrs Weight's passing back in November to our school community, she was just shy of celebrating her 90th birthday. We spoke with current pupils, previous pupils, previous headteachers, parents and many more – she truly touched so many people in the 50 years we were blessed to have her working alongside us at Woolhampton C of E Primary School.

On what would have been her 90 th birthday, we held a beautiful school memorial service where we looked back and remembered the many great memories we had of Mrs Weight, finishing off with our year 6's reading out their personal poems for her.

Mrs Weight began working at our school when her son Dean was a pupil, teaching the children how to sew and knit. The Headteacher at the time saw just how great she was and asked her to join the staffing team. She would greet children in the mornings and said goodbye to them at the end of the day by the gate. During the day she would help in the classrooms, organise lunches and lunch time play and also run clubs. She was a busy lady but loved her job. She wanted children to enjoy school and to help them in their learning. Her philosophy was – make it enjoyable and the children will learn. She always called the children her little darlings because that's what they were to her.

She was full of fun and laughter and would come to school dressed as though she was going out on a dinner date. She looked so glamorous with her beautiful glitz dresses and jewellery. The children loved to see what she was wearing each day and she always said that she dressed for the children. She was sometimes mistaken for the headmistress much to the amusement of the head teachers at the time. At the school fayres there was always a bric a brac stall run by Mrs Weight to raise funds for school or another charity. She knitted thousands of twiddle muffs which went to help people in hospital suffering from dementia. She knitted dog blankets for the dog's home and teddy's to send out to Africa. She was always busy!

Mrs Weight loved to accompany the children on school journeys be it to the Isle of Wight, Osmington Bay or where ever they went and she looked after the children while they were away from home. In the evenings she would give them hot chocolate and biscuits and made sure they were safely tucked up in bed. She comforted those who were homesick and thought up fun games to play. She seemed to know when children needed comfort and support. One of the most important jobs she did was to help those children who found learning to read difficult. Mrs Weight would support them and play games to improve their confidence in decoding and of course she made it fun.

Mrs Weight was a wonderful kind, patient and nurturing lady who loved working with children and received her MBE from Prince Charles, now King Charles, for her Services to Education. She was a remarkable lady and a great friend to staff and children. Teachers, pupils, past and present will have so many special memories of her that will be treasured for many years to come.

Loving tribute from Mrs Howe



NO OUT SIDERS

'All different, All welcome'

WOOLHAMPTON
PRIMARY
SCHOOL



www.awb.org.uk



BRIMPTON
COFE
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

World Book Day

This world book day we wore our cosy pyjamas and dressing gowns or onesies and brought in our favourite book. In the afternoon we did world book day activities and parents came into school to read some books to us. Books with pictures and words, books with no writing and books with no pictures at all. We really enjoyed the different voices and varieties of stories.

T

Hexagon

**The Brimpton choir are going to The Hexagon on
Tuesday the 19th March 2024**

In March Brimpton choir are going to the Hexagon to attend the Junior Music Festival when the choir will be singing a range of Jungle related songs as this years (JMF) is called ...

RAINFOREST RUMBLE
BY Nathaniel and Henry

If you require any other information regarding Brimpton School
Please contact Mrs Sarah Vockins on 0118-9712311
office@brimpton.w-berks.sch.uk
www.brimpton.w-berks.sch.uk



www.awb.org.uk