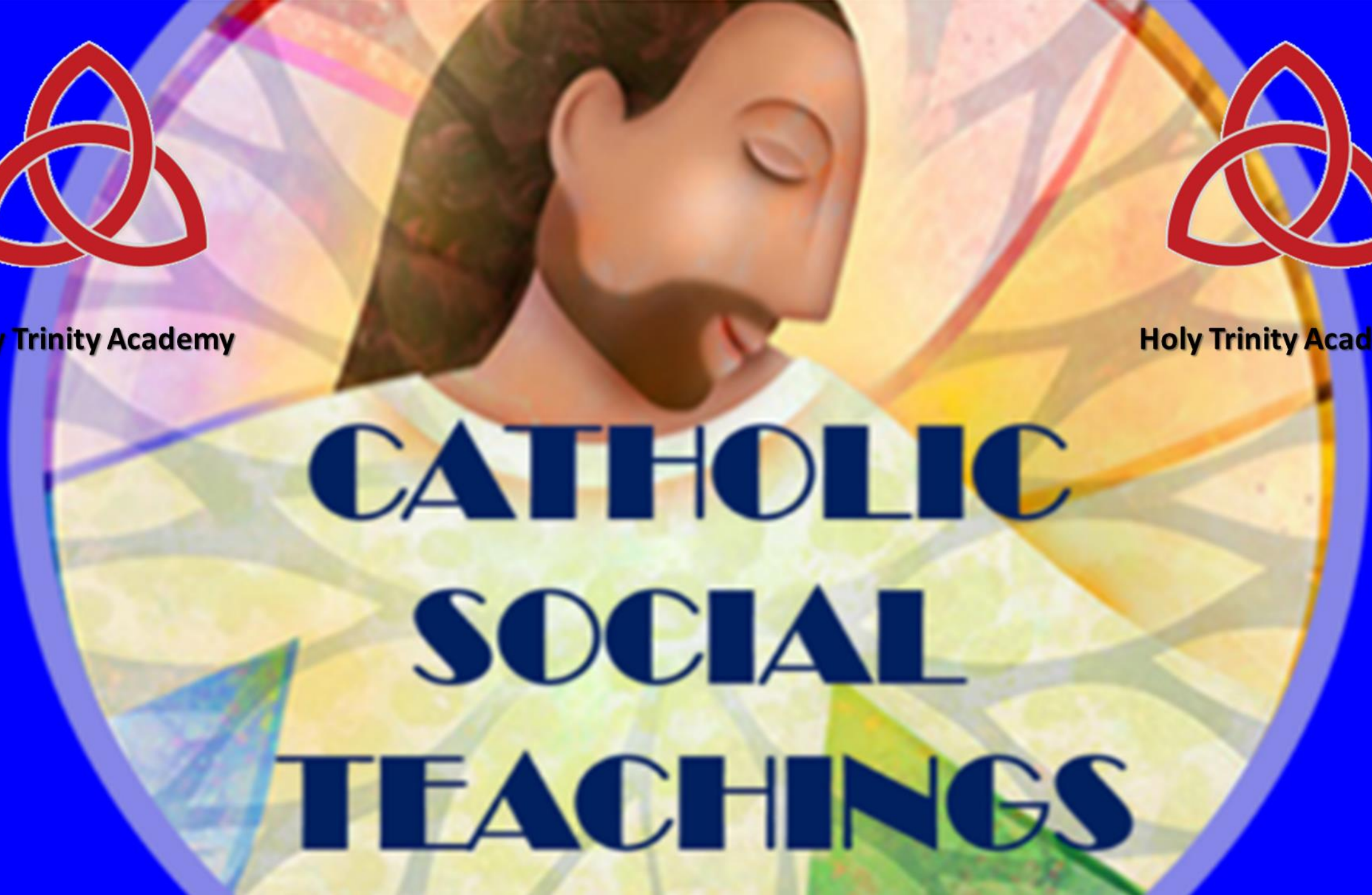
Holy Trinity Academy

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CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS

Refugees & Migrants



Key Theme Of The Year: Refugees & Migrancy

2023 - 2024: Refugees & Migrancy

The Church has asked us to remember in our prayers this year those millions of refugees around the world who have been displaced from their homes, towns and countries. Many have lost their livelihood due to war, poverty, drought, hunger, persecution. And then there are those regarded as migrants who leave their home country in search of a better life ... usually due to the need to escape poverty.

We sometimes forget how privileged we are in our country. Whilst we have poverty in our own country, it is not to the same extreme as places such as South Sudan, Syria, Venezuela, Madagascar, Guatemala.

In 2021, more than two-thirds of the refugees came from just 5 countries:

Syria (6.8 million)
Venezuela (4.6 million)
Afghanistan (2.7 million)
South Sudan (2.4 million)
Myanmar (1.2 million)

Patron Saint Of Refugees: St Alban

Alban's journey to Christianity began when he met a Christian priest fleeing from persecutors. Alban decided to shelter and protect him in his house. During this time, Alban became inspired by the faith, piety and charity of the priest. Alban soon began emulating the priest and eventually decided to convert to Christianity.

Eventually, those who were hunting the priest found that he was sheltering in Alban's house. So, to give the priest time to escape, Alban dressed in the priest's cloak and clothing and gave himself over to them. When the judge heard that Alban had offered himself up in place of the priest, Alban was sentenced to endure all the punishments that were to be inflicted upon the priest, unless he would comply with the rites of their religion. Alban refused, and declared:

"I worship and adore the true and living God who created all things."

Alban is now the patron saint of converts, refugees & victims of persecution.

Prayer

Saint Alban, you gave us an example of hospitality by opening your home to one in need and, as a result of this encounter, were completely changed.

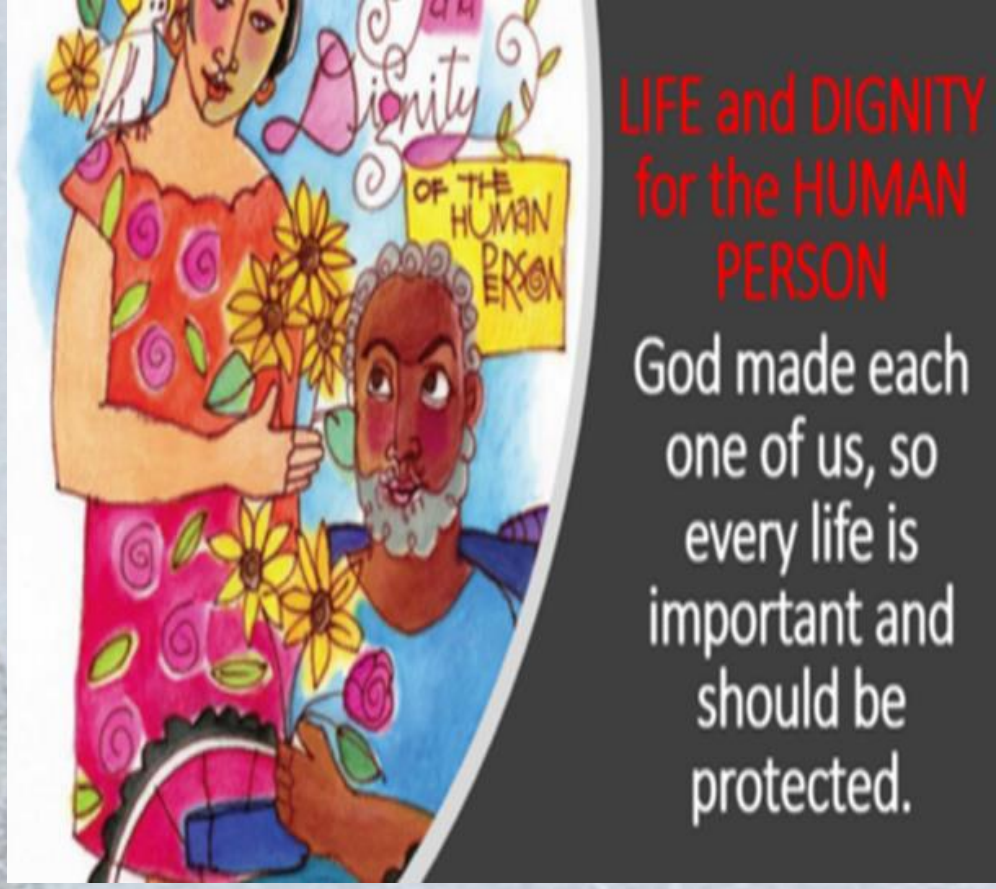
We ask that through your intercession we may be given the courage to offer help to those who are forced to flee their home in search of safety.

We ask that in accompanying others as you did we may encounter God in a new way.

Saint Alban, Patron of Refugees, pray for us and all refugees around the world.
Amen

In 2023-2024, we followed Pope Francis' request to especially pray for refugees and migrants this Church year so that they will be welcomed, protected, promoted and integrated.

Regular prayers take place during form time that focus on the theme of Refugees and Migrants.





In 2024-2025, Nicole from Telford Minister is running Form Time workshops that encourages all students in the school to focus on the CST about Human Dignity.

The Staff Retreat Day in October 2024 saw the staff come together for a day of prayer and reflection on Human Dignity ... culminating with a Communion Service and worship.



Nicole, a Youth Worker from one of our local parishes, comes into school on Wednesdays and leads a workshop at Form Time on CST. Every Form will attend 2 x workshops throughout the year. In 2023-24 year we are focused on Family & Community and Help The Poor & Vulnerable. This year sees us focus on Human Dignity.

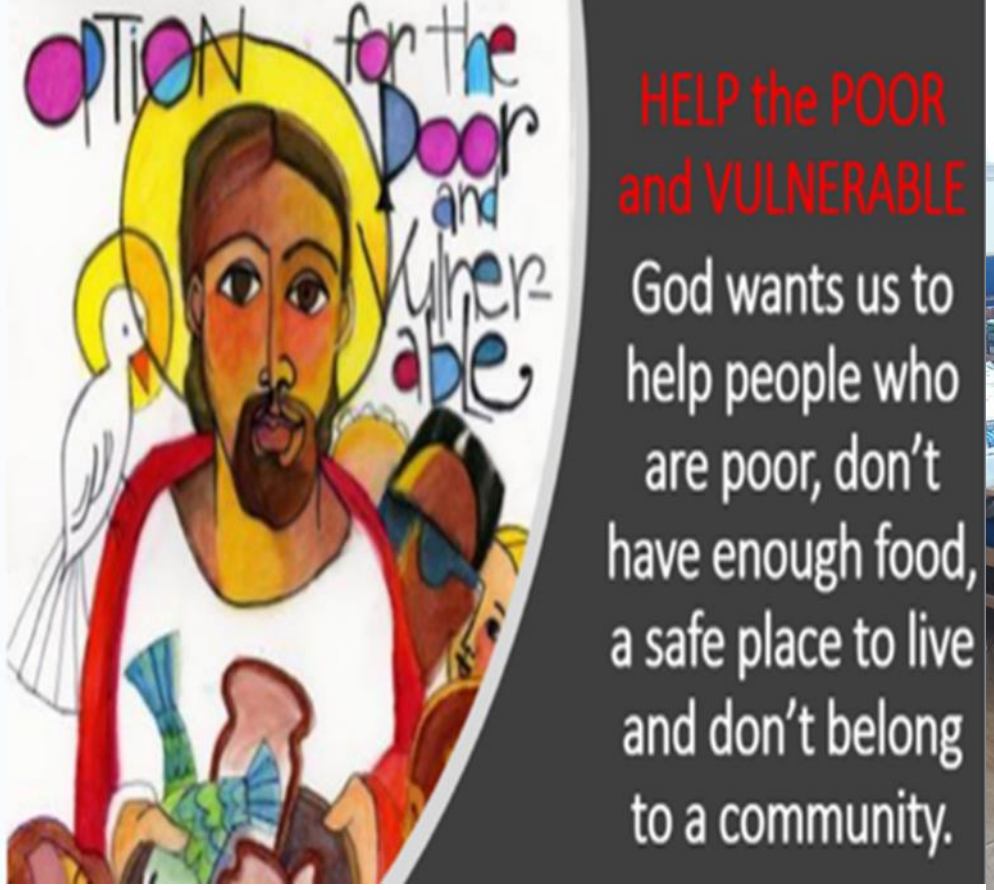


HTA students led the Scripture readings & prayers at Mass at Good Shepherd Church … School, Parish & Families coming together!





The Student Chaplaincy Team are just preparing to serve tea & cake to staff on Friday breaktimes … just helping out!



Food collections at Holy Trinity Academy

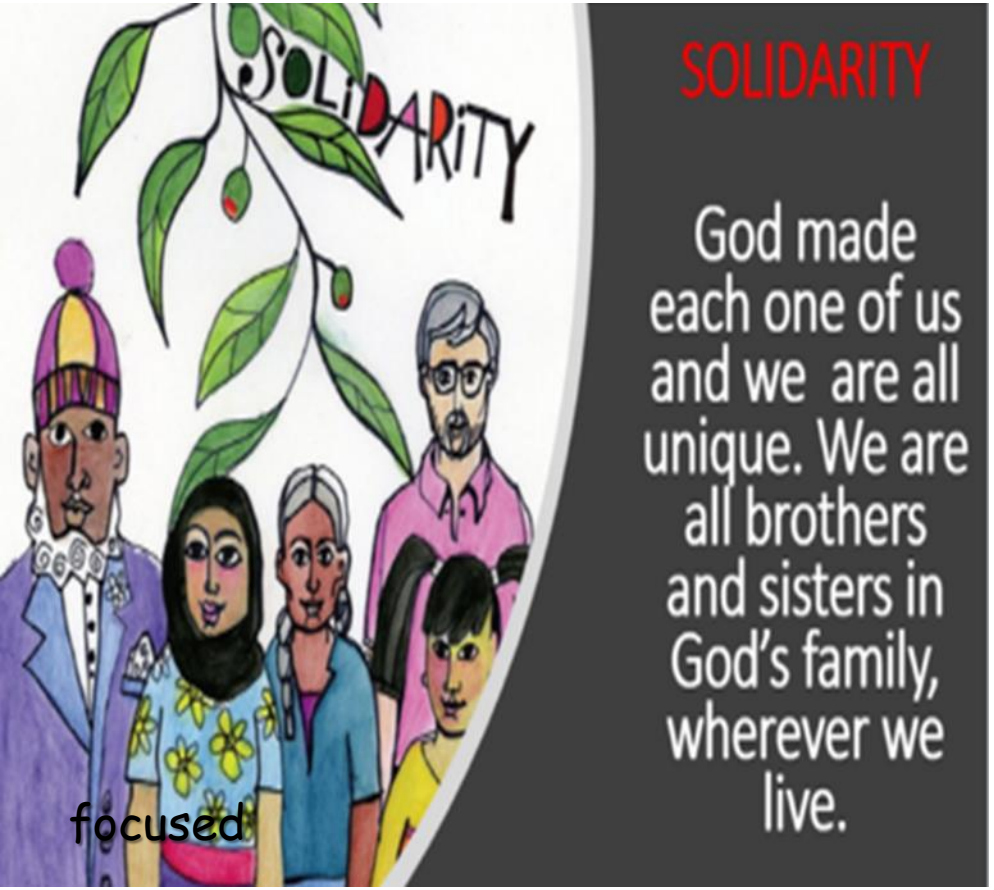
We do food collections at Holy Trinity Academy, and we ask the pupils to bring in some donations to the people who need it the most.



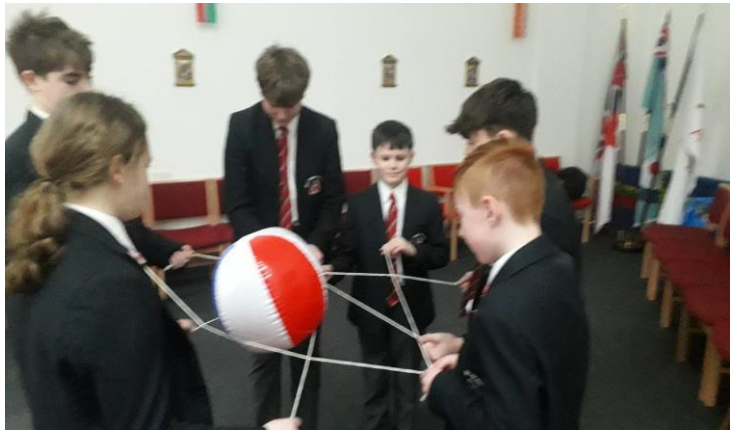


As part of the Friday Enrichment programme at Holy Trinity Academy, the Year 8 pupils are currently undertaking the Archbishop of York KS3 Award.

Students help out at their local Food Bank based at Holy Trinity Church.



Our Mission Statement: Faith, Unity & Aspiration



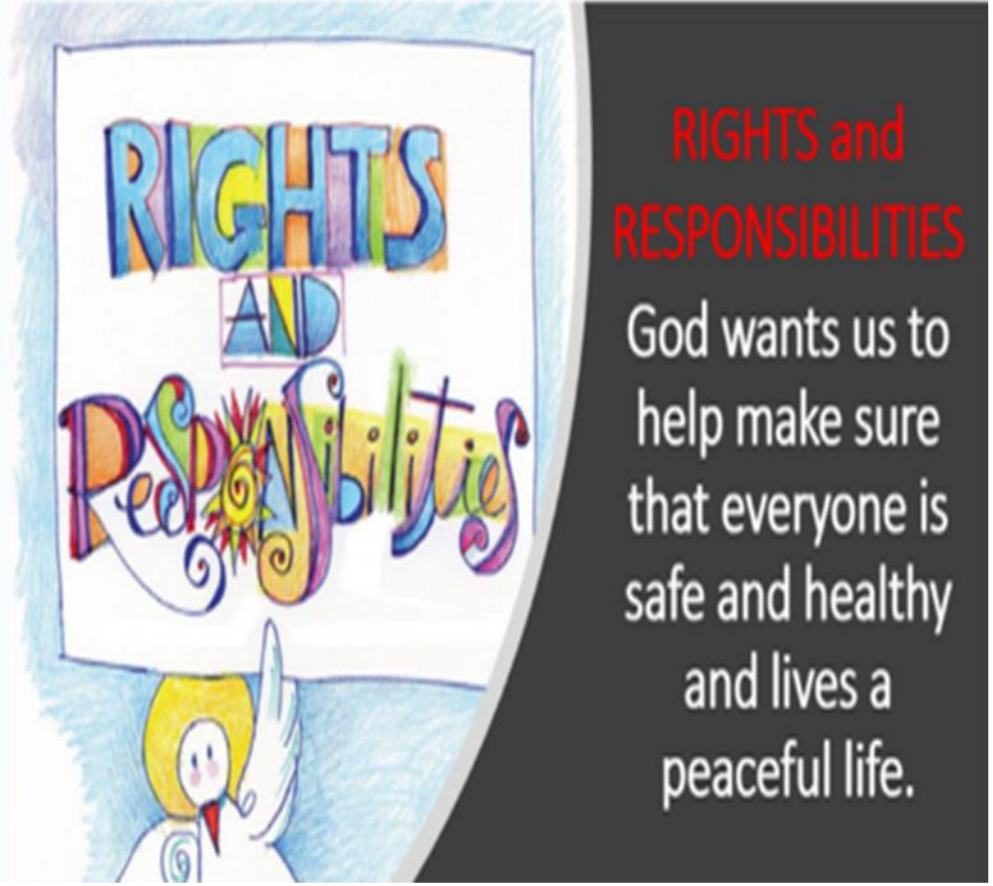
At HTA we have the themes of Faith, Unity and Aspiration.

Last term we covered the theme of Faith. This term we are focused on Unity.

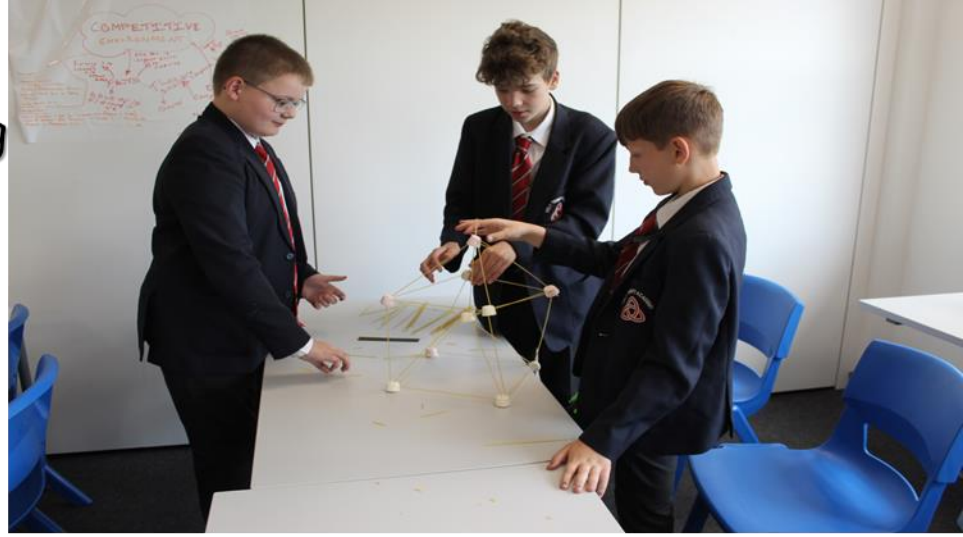
The HTA Student Chaplaincy Team (some are here today!) deliver a 10-15 minute workshop to all the Form groups in school over a 6-week period.

They have come up with the ideas for the reflective workshop themselves … which includes a game to begin with (involving string and beachballs!), the Scripture reading, the reflection and the final prayer.

They remind all of our students about the importance of Unity / Solidarity.

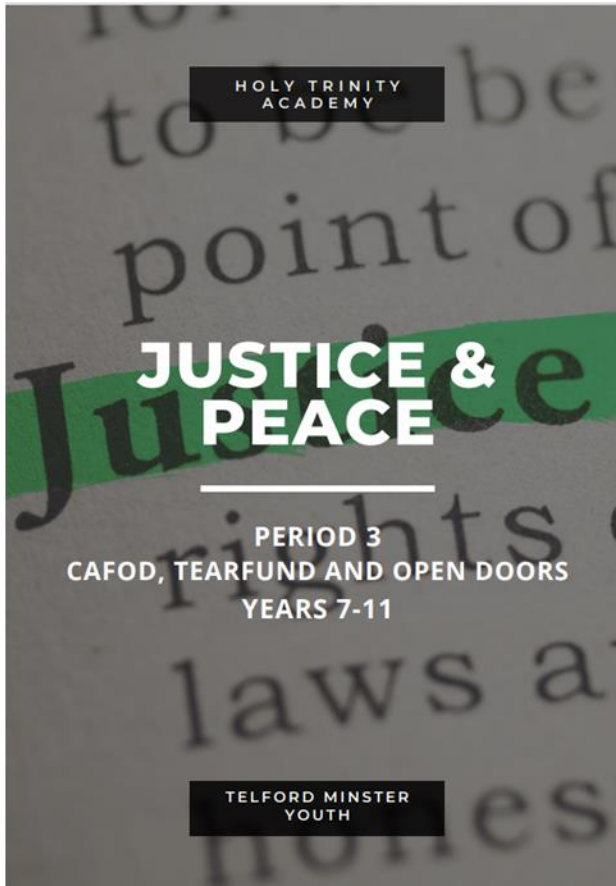


Taking on the responsibility of ensuring others are safe and happy …We have 'Peer-buddies' that look out for one another … each of the student wellbeing ambassadors has one student they buddy up with for wellbeing support, this could be giving the student an additional friend in school or to talk about how they have been feeling and any worries.





Nicole, our Youth Worker, comes into school on Wednesdays to deliver a Justice & Peace workshop to all classes (throughout the year). Each class will come out of their 'normal' lesson to take part in the workshop in the Chapel. Videos, scripture, reflection, discussions and games are used.





For the last hour on a Friday, the whole school does 'Enrichment'!

Our Year 7s have the opportunity to participate in …

* Pond digging
* Ornithology
* Bird nest / box construction
* Mindfulness
* Gardening

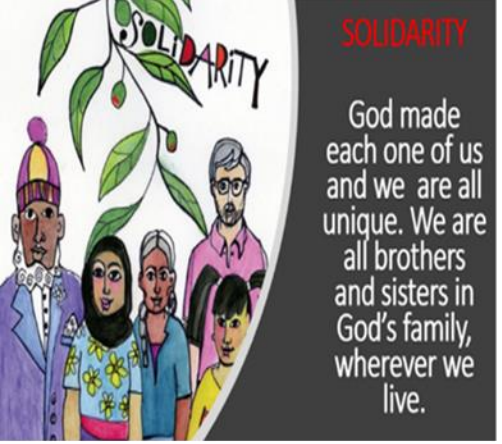




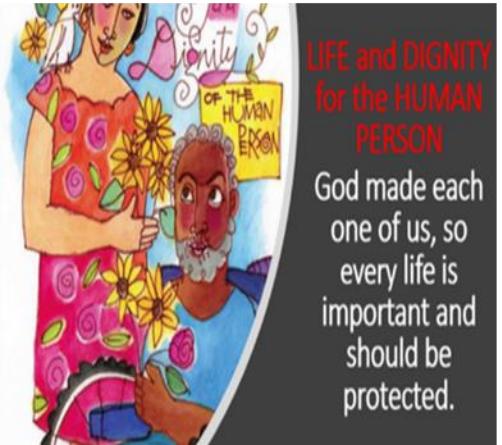
All of our Year 9s have the opportunity to have taster sessions in the Duke of Edinburgh Award … part of which requires them to examine / start planning an environmental project that they could do as part of the Award.



KS4 students have access to the school's own weather station for research into weather patterns and discussions on climate change and our response to it as a Catholic school.







HTA Visits To Our Primary Schools

This year, both Year 8, 9 and 10 students have had the opportunity to visit a local Primary school to serve as reading-buddies to KS1 and KS2 students.

"We read with students in the school to help them with their reading and be better with their English. We don't just read with them to read with them, we read with them also to connect with communities and help them know that we are a part of their community." [Year 8 student]

"We also think it's quite important to help younger kids so we can be example for them … be a role model." [Year 9 student]

Whilst our students help the Primary school students with pronunciation, comprehension and improving their confidence …

"It is just nice to be with them … because we are all the same really." [Year 10 student]



