



How have EYFS and KS1 at St Mary's given Alms this Lent?

EYFS:

During Lent, Early Years explored the Catholic Social Teaching theme of Community and Participation, learning about the importance of sharing and caring for others. The children have been learning about new life and how we can show love and kindness within our community.

As part of this, the children have been growing flowers for two purposes: One for our school peace garden and two to take some to [St Mary's Convent and Nursing Home](#) once they have blossomed after Lent. The children will share these flowers with the residents, using them as a way to talk about new life and the hope of Easter.

Through this experience, the children are learning that even small acts of giving can bring joy to others. We are very proud of them for showing care and kindness as they begin to live out their faith in their community.

Year 1:

During Lent, Year 1 explored the Catholic Social Teaching theme of Community and Participation, learning about how we can care for and support others in our community. The children thought about who their "neighbour" is and how they can show love and kindness to those in need.

As part of this, the children created and gave Lenten and Easter cards to support [Mind UK](#). They learned that some people may feel sad or lonely and that kind messages can help others feel cared for and supported.

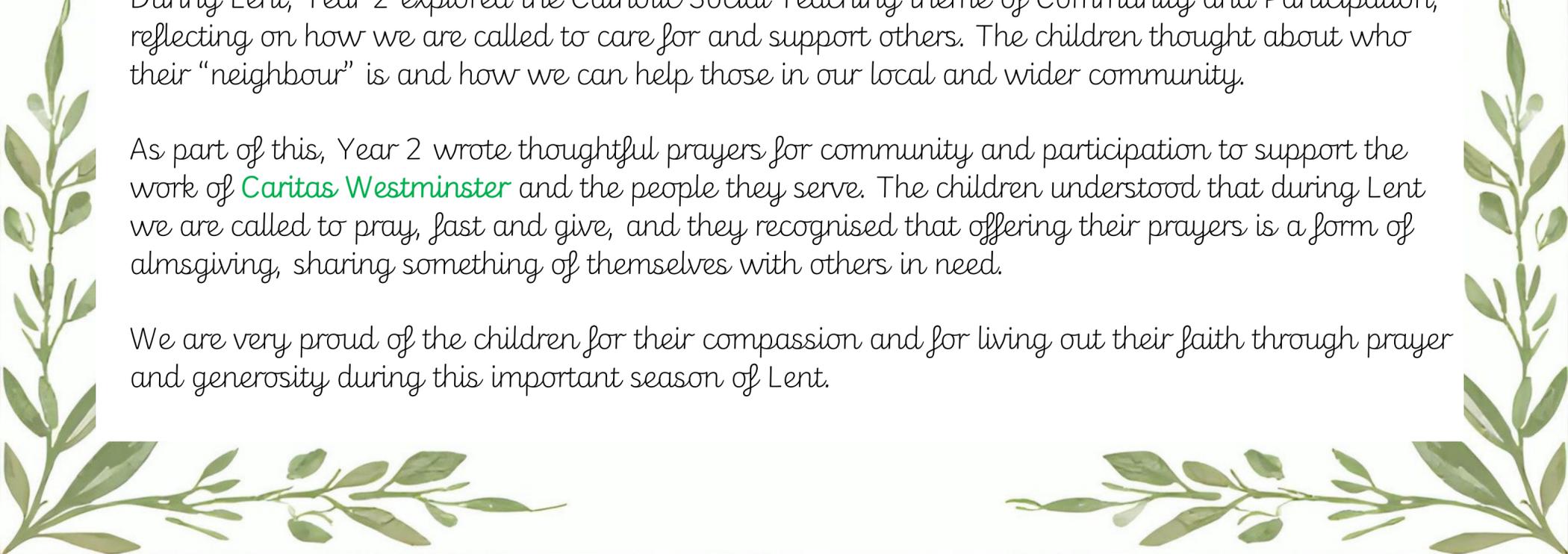
The children understood that during Lent we are called to pray, fast and give, and recognised that sharing their cards and kind messages is a way of giving to others. We are very proud of their generosity and for living out their faith during this special season of Lent.

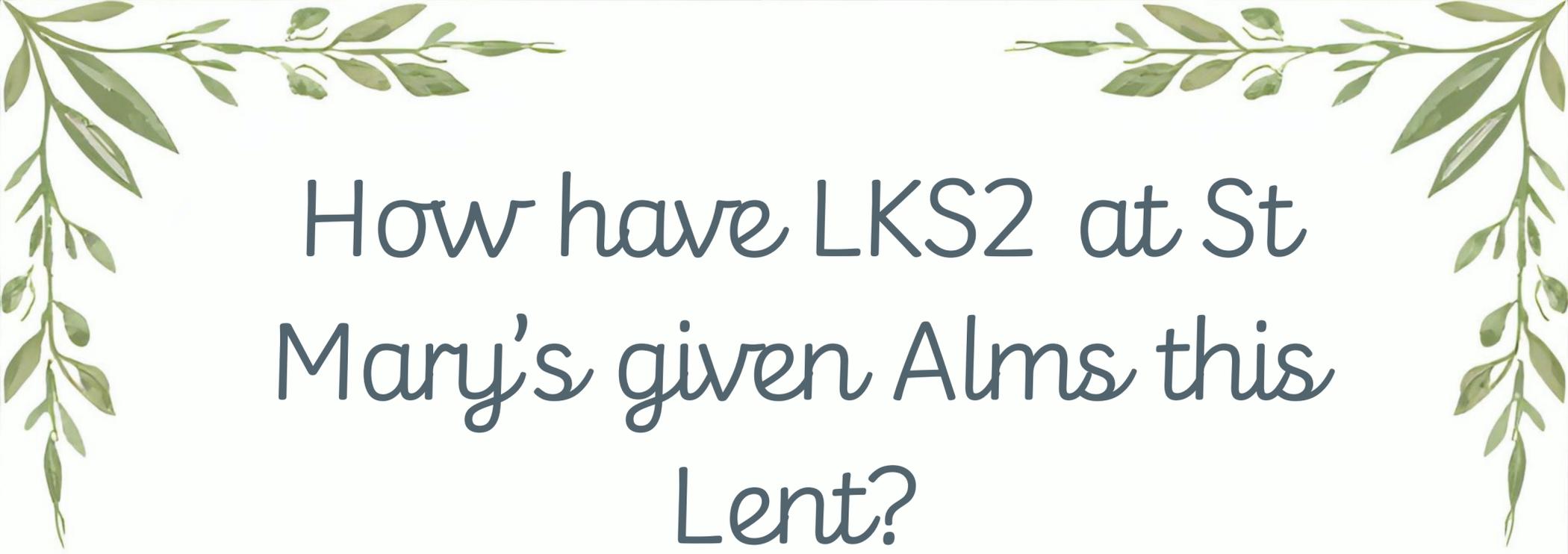
Year 2:

During Lent, Year 2 explored the Catholic Social Teaching theme of Community and Participation, reflecting on how we are called to care for and support others. The children thought about who their "neighbour" is and how we can help those in our local and wider community.

As part of this, Year 2 wrote thoughtful prayers for community and participation to support the work of [Caritas Westminster](#) and the people they serve. The children understood that during Lent we are called to pray, fast and give, and they recognised that offering their prayers is a form of almsgiving, sharing something of themselves with others in need.

We are very proud of the children for their compassion and for living out their faith through prayer and generosity during this important season of Lent.





How have LKS2 at St Mary's given Alms this Lent?

Year 3:

During Lent, Year 3 explored the Catholic Social Teaching theme of Community and Participation, reflecting on how we are called to care for others and use our gifts to support those around us.

As part of this, the children wrote Lenten poems and shared them with **other schools connected through Mrs Norris' Writing for Pleasure project**. Through their writing, the children offered messages of hope, kindness and reflection to others beyond their own community.

The children understood that during Lent we are called to pray, fast and give, and recognised that sharing their talents and creativity is a form of almsgiving. By giving their words and ideas to others, they showed how we can support and uplift our neighbours in meaningful ways.

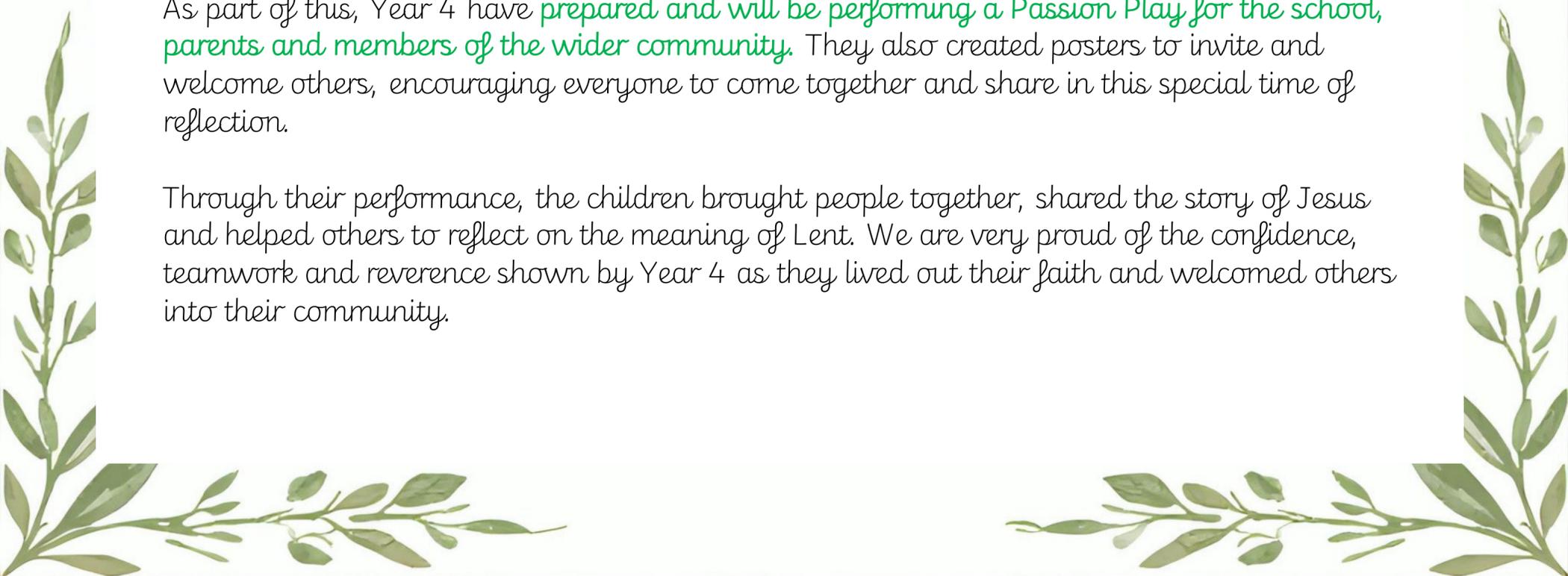
We are very proud of Year 3 for their generosity and for living out their faith through their writing during this special season of Lent.

Year 4:

During Lent, Year 4 explored the Catholic Social Teaching theme of Community and Participation, reflecting on how we are called to come together and share God's love with others. Inspired by the words, "Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them," the children thought about how they can welcome others into their community.

As part of this, Year 4 have **prepared and will be performing a Passion Play for the school, parents and members of the wider community**. They also created posters to invite and welcome others, encouraging everyone to come together and share in this special time of reflection.

Through their performance, the children brought people together, shared the story of Jesus and helped others to reflect on the meaning of Lent. We are very proud of the confidence, teamwork and reverence shown by Year 4 as they lived out their faith and welcomed others into their community.





How have UKS2 at St Mary's given Alms this Lent?

Year 5:

During Lent, Year 5 explored the Catholic Social Teaching theme of Community and Participation, reflecting on the message "No one is an island." The children thought carefully about who their "neighbour" is and how they can support others in their community.

As part of this, Year 5 created thoughtful letters and cards for older members of the community supported by [Age UK](#). Through their kind words, prayers and messages, the children aimed to remind others that they are not alone and are valued and remembered.

We are very proud of the compassion and empathy Year 5 have shown, living out their faith during this important season.

Year 6:

During Lent, Year 6 explored the different communities they are part of and reflected on how they can use their gifts to serve others. *They shared their talents—such as reading with younger children to show patience, singing at a local care home to share their musical abilities or volunteering at a park run to spread positivity—and noticed how these small gestures can make a difference in their community.*

The children thought carefully about why they wanted to work with a particular group, what they could offer and when their visit would take place. They then reflected on their experiences, describing the group they supported, what they did and the impact they believed their actions had on others.

They also considered how they could continue and develop this work in the future. Throughout their reflections, Year 6 were inspired by Scripture and the words of Pope Francis, guiding them to live out their faith through service, kindness and community involvement.

We are very proud of the thoughtful and compassionate way Year 6 have embraced this opportunity to support others and grow in their faith.

