

Children in Class Wear at Gainford CE Primary School are taking part in the Archbishop of York Youth Trust Young Leaders' Awards.

Class Wear were challenged this Lent to Look IN and think about each weekly theme, reflecting on words from the Bible, and then to Look OUT, to speak, give, act and pray. Our themes were family, friends, school and community.

We thought about why we are thankful for our **family** and how we could show love to them. The children wrote messages on post-it notes and hid them at home for their loved ones to find. Anthony's message reads – 'Mum, I love you. Thank you for being kind to me, I love you so much.'

Anthony said, " It made me very happy to leave a special message for my mum. It made me feel good inside !"

In the next session we discussed how our families had reacted to the messages and how it made them feel.

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up." 1 Thessalonians: 5:11

These were the words from the Bible for our theme of **friendship**. The children thought about their friends and how being with our friends makes us feel. Selfies were taken in friendship groups and frames made for the photos with positive comments from friends saying why the individual was a good friend and children signed them as something to look back on to make them smile and to build each other up.

Usually we spend most of our week in **school**. Our school is a community that includes pupils, staff and families. This Lent we wanted to make our school the most generous, supportive and happy community it can be. We decided to show our appreciation to staff in our school. The way to the school staff's heart is definitely cake! Children decorated cakes, wrote messages and delivered them to staff in school. The children loved the reactions from staff at the surprise of a cake and a message of gratitude.

Lastly, on the day of school closure due to Covid-19 virus we thought about our **community**.

"Love your neighbour as yourself." Galatians 5:14

We looked outwards to the people and places around us to bring transformation and hope both in the time of Lent and in the uncertain times we have in the world at the moment. We discussed how we could be kind, stay positive and hopeful and love others when we are at home at this time. Children arranged daffodils into small bouquets and delivered them to people that they thought of in the village, to bring sunshine and hope.

Mrs Gallagher , who has been supporting the children with this project, said 'The children have astounded me with their kindness, thoughtfulness and love for others. I know this is something the children will continue to do - to look in at themselves and to look out for others.'

Mrs Riley, Acting Headteacher said," Our junior and infant children take part in the Young Leader's Awards and they have a huge impact on the pupils capacity to help each other, their families and the wider community; it certainly gives them a sense of citizenship and belonging."