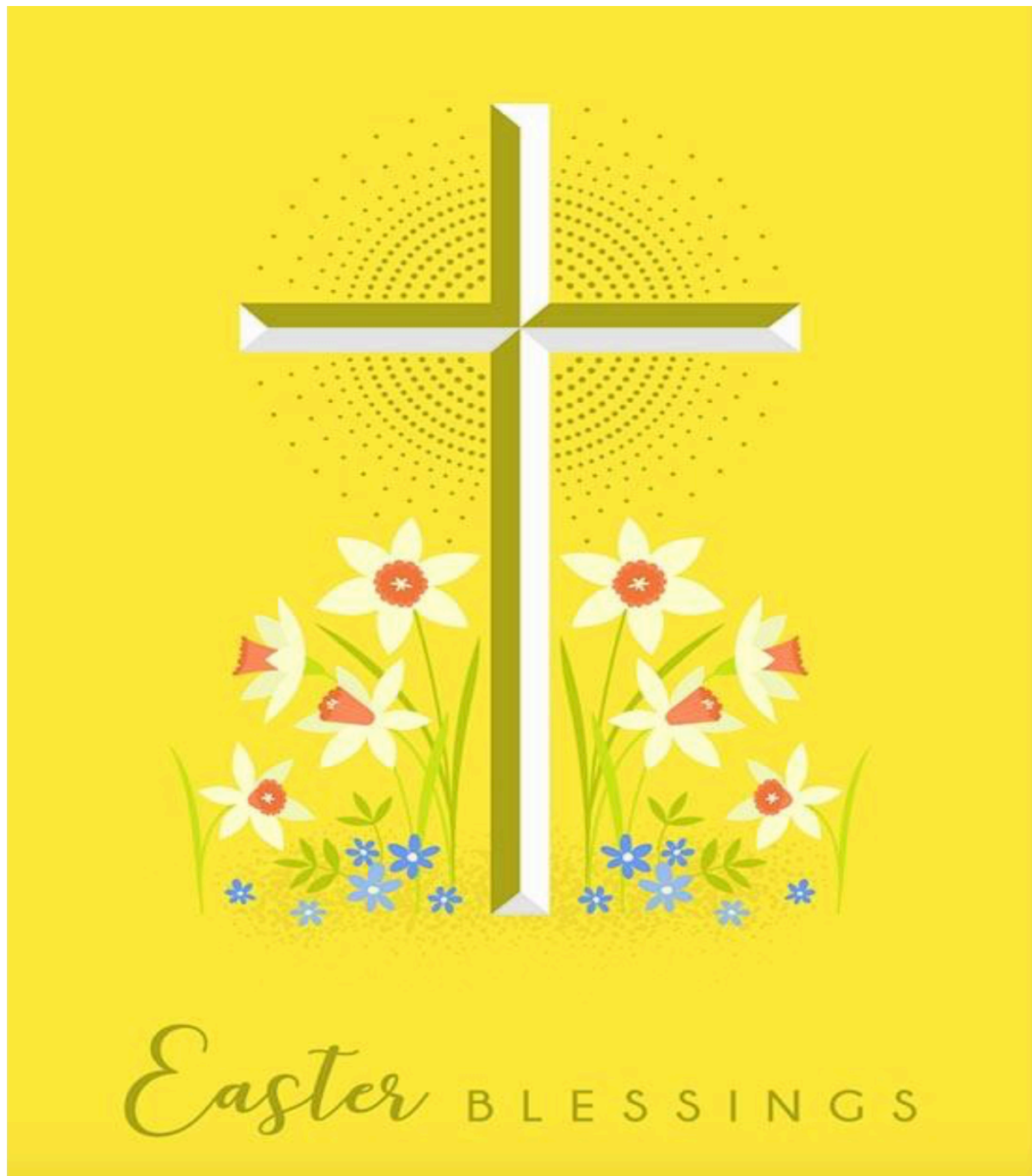


**The Church Newsletter**  
for the parishes in the  
Benefice of Denver and Ryston  
with Roxham and Bexwell and Crimplesham



**April-May 2021**



We pray to be generous and visible people of Jesus Christ



## MINISTRY TEAM

**Clergy\***                                      **Revd. Fr Richard Fordham**                                      **01366384271**  
or ☎ **richardfordham939@outlook.com**

(\* There will be no contact available via the Denver Rectory –  
changes from 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2019 until further notice)

**Lay Minister**                                      Mary Hurst                                      01366 383867

### CHURCH OFFICERS

#### **St Mary the Virgin, Bexwell**

Churchwarden                                      Roy Shipton                                      01366 384914

Churchwarden and  
Safeguarding Officer                                      Fraser Reich                                      01366 382302

#### **St Mary's, Crimplesham**

Churchwarden                                      Jim Lane                                      01366 383121

Churchwarden and  
Safeguarding Officer                                      Jessica Kibble                                      01366 387806

#### **St Mary's, Denver**

Churchwarden                                      Nigel Davies                                      01366 385428

Churchwarden                                      Mary Hurst                                      01366 383867

Safeguarding Officer                                      Linden Leeke                                      01366 858596

#### **St Michael's, Ryston**

Churchwarden                                      Sarah Pratt                                      01366 383322

Churchwarden                                      Colin Sampson                                      01366 388003

Safeguarding Officer                                      Nicholas Pratt                                      01366 382919

***Please contact our Safeguarding Officers if you have any  
concerns about children or vulnerable adults. Our Diocesan  
Safeguarding Officer is Sarah King, on 01353 652735, or email  
[sarahking@elydiocese.org](mailto:sarahking@elydiocese.org)***

# *Easter & Changing Seasons, Changing Lives April 2021*



With Easter just around the corner we can look forward to the promise of new life in more ways than one: New life in the Resurrection of Christ and therefore new life after death for us, new life in the blossoming of flowers and the birth of little animals and birds and new life as we tip toe out of lockdown.

We have much to look forward to and whilst the last year has been full of illness, isolation and yes, grief, let us tomorrow, with a thankful heart, enjoy every minute that we can rejoicing in the world around us - for indeed the world we have around us in Norfolk is something to behold. The three of us, Hubby, Winnie (small naughty dog) and me have discovered places we never knew existed until we started taking our daily exercise around the local area.

I am sure, like me, you cannot wait to meet friends and family again, have a cuddle or hug, or even a weep when you first meet - that is what being human is all about - or it should be.

As well as changing seasons we, in the Fincham and Feltwell Deanery, are facing change. This can be either exciting, worrying or 'put your head in the sand' type thing.

We in Wissey Valley faced change last year when Ken upped sticks and headed for Cyprus. Did we wonder what was to happen - of course we did; did we wonder who would be in charge - you bet! When the opportunity came along for me to take the benefice on board was I apprehensive - yes, I am human. But, as soon as I prayed and sought guidance from our Faithful Father in Heaven my fears and self-doubt disappeared and with the blessing of our Ministry Family stepped out for the challenge. And then.....Covid struck. However, we have continued to be faithful servants of Christ with each of us using our individual gifts: Janet with her, now, expertise with Zoom, Burman with on-line Messy Adult Church, we have all played our part in keeping the church and its people together by technology and newsletters through the door as well as phone calls, prayer and the most important ingredient of all - LOVE.

Do everything in love and prayer and we can, together, journey through the rest of our lives in contentment and happiness facing whatever life can and will throw at us with a spirit of belonging to each other.

*Rev Carol Nicholas-Letch*  
*Priest in Charge Wissey Valley Benefice*  
*caroln153@hotmail.com*  
*01366 500704*

## A Renewed Resurrection

They nailed him to the cross  
With companions on either side  
Storm clouds grew darker  
Earth preparing to break apart  
Birds flying unsettled  
Scattering for shelter  
Woman's tears falling silently  
From horror - struck bodies  
The soldiers tossing lots  
For ill-gotten gains  
The braying, fickle crowds  
Thinking they knew best  
But the sacrificial, forgiving Jesus  
Poured love on all he saw  
He stretched out his hands  
To believers and questioners alike  
His feet pointed to God's created Earth  
The land He knew and loved  
His head so near the God  
He worshipped and adored  
There upon the cross  
Man and God were one.  
Can we live in this World's Crucifixion time?  
Become one with God  
Reflecting His holy teaching and caring  
Drawing nearer to each other  
Crossing divides of hearts and bodies.  
Honouring our diverse planet  
Helping healing and new growth  
Letting the rhythm of his words  
Beat through our hearts  
Washing away our fears  
Replacing tears with hope.  
Lord hear our prayers  
And lead us to a renewed Resurrection  
Under the shelter of your Everlasting Love.

A Poem by Helen McNicoll

“Our Bard from Birmingham”



*Pasque flowers*



## Reason for celebration at Bexwell

On April the 4th, Easter Sunday, as well as a celebration of resurrection and new life, we will be holding our 50<sup>th</sup> online service of the pandemic. The first was begun on April 19<sup>th</sup> 2020. Since that date we have had 1775 attendees at the online services. Is this a boast? Well, yes but only in as much as: 2 Corinthians 10:17 “As the scripture says, “Whoever wants to boast must boast about what the Lord has done.” and 2 Corinthians 9:10 “And God, who supplies seed for the sower and bread to eat, will also supply you with all the seed you need and will make it grow and produce a rich harvest from your generosity”. We are as surprised and delighted as everyone else that we have been able to find a fresh expression in tough times, and that it has met some needs. And so finally: Isaiah 43:19 “For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness”

Fraser Reich  
Bexwell

One of our online members, known affectionately in this parish as “The Bard of Birmingham”, wrote a short, haiku-like poem to celebrate:

A table laid fifty times  
Eager diners from near and far  
Nourishment for soul and mind.  
Glasses filled with rich new wine.  
We hear God’s blessing. Feed my lambs.



To discuss procedures in the current crisis for baptisms, weddings or funerals, please contact Revd. Fr Richard Fordham

**☎ 01366 384271**  
or **✉ [richardfordham939@outlook.com](mailto:richardfordham939@outlook.com)**

**WEDDINGS** *And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love*

17 <sup>th</sup> . April 2021	Issar HUSSAIN & Anna MAHESWAREN	at Crimplesham
29 <sup>th</sup> . May 2021	Duncan J WILSON & Catherine F DENNY	at Bexwell

**FUNERALS** *The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.*  
*(Lamentations 3:22)*

8 <sup>th</sup> . April 2021	George COOPER	Mintlyn
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### Pastoral Initiative

We are in the planning stage of pastoral initiative for our benefice.

The first stage was for each church to have a contact person who would be aware of the care needs of their church/community. This stage is nearing completion.

The second stage is to form a Pastoral Benefice team, so we can start to put together an outreach programme to respond to those needs. We are looking for people who can commit some time to this project. If you feel you are being called to this ministry or would just like to know more.

Contact no: 01366385808

Jean Evans

Pastoral Co-Ordinator

Denver Benefice

**Recommended** – website - [pray-as-you-go.org](http://pray-as-you-go.org) – music, scripture and prayer, a session for every day of the week, each lasting 10-13mins. There is an App that can be downloaded, but you don't have to be going anywhere to listen, and since most of us aren't going anywhere, a session at home with a cuppa is very calming.

### MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

There will be no paper copies of the newsletter unless you decide to print out the copy sent to you by email, and besides the full version an easy-to-print 3-4 page copy is attached with essential information. I count on all readers for whom I already have an email address to forward your copy to anyone you know who would like to be on the emailing list and to ask them, if they wish to continue to receive newsletters, to send their email direct to me ([cardno@mac.com](mailto:cardno@mac.com)). This way I can build up an emailing list that will greatly facilitate communication.

Deadline for any input you may have for the June-July issue of the newsletter is 25<sup>th</sup>. May 2021. Please send to Sheilah Cardno, St. Mary's Denver. E-mail: [cardno@mac.com](mailto:cardno@mac.com)

### **The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)**

The Parish Giving Scheme is a simple and efficient way to help you carry on with your regular giving using this scheme, or to start donating support for your church especially at this time when we cannot meet in the usual way. The scheme, supported by the Diocese, assists you in setting up direct debit payments to your church, including any Gift Aid, and if you wish, allows you to increase your gift annually to protect against inflation. In short, the benefits all round are:

1. The church benefits by:
  - a. Stable planned giving
  - b. Efficient and regular reclaim of Gift Aid
  - c. Protection against intermittent giving
2. The treasurer benefits by:
  - a. Reduced administration and paperwork
  - b. Access to monthly and annual statements (for tax & calendar year)
3. Saves time. The donor benefits by:
  - a. Being in total control of how much they give
  - b. Using a simple giving method that means regular financial support to their church
  - c. The option to increase giving annually to protect their gift against inflation
  - d. The Direct Debit Guarantee Scheme protects the gifts
  - e. Being able to remain anonymous if they so wish
  - f. Still being able to participate in the offertory by using tokens
4. If you would like further information about the scheme before deciding please visit [www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/)

**GOD'S LOVE IS FREE: GOD'S WORK COSTS MONEY!**

"Churches Together" at Downham Market provide each Year Six child moving on to secondary education in our Deanery with a booklet "It's Your Move", published by Scripture Union. This contains useful tips for pupils to help them in the significant change from the comforting environment familiar to them since starting school.

Unfortunately Churches Together, like charities and churches everywhere, have been short of funds this year. A contribution to this very worthwhile cause would be very helpful: Details from their Treasurer Peter King at 01366 502 110



#### WORSHIP

Everyone is welcome to join with our worship of the Lord

**Services :- Denver - St. Mary; Ryston – St Michael;  
Bexwell – St Mary the Virgin; Crimplesham - St. Mary**

**Bexwell continues to broadcast Sunday evening Zoom services at 8.00 pm–  
details on the Bexwell page of the newsletter**

#### **April 2021 – schedule for Benefice churches**

Good Friday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	12.00 pm	Easter Meditation	Denver
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday Easter Day	4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Crimplesham
		9.30 am	Holy Communion	Bexwell
		11.00 am	Holy Communion	Denver
		8.00 pm	Zoom Service	Bexwell
Monday	5 <sup>th</sup>	3.00 pm	Holy Communion	Oakes Court- suspended
2 <sup>nd</sup> of Easter	11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Ryston
		11.00 am	Morning Prayer	Denver
		8.00 pm	Zoom Service	Bexwell
3 <sup>rd</sup> of Easter	18 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Matins	Denver
		6.30 pm	Evensong	Ryston
		8.00 pm	Zoom Service	Bexwell
4 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	25 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Morning Prayer	Crimplesham
		11.00 am	Family Service	Denver
		8.00 pm	Zoom Service	Bexwell

Further information and guidance on church reopening can be found on the Church of England site – <https://www.churchofengland.org> - and the Diocese of Ely - <https://www.elydiocese.org> ( a new website that really aims to explain who's who and what's what in the Diocese of Ely!) If in doubt about whether your church is open or not, please call your church officers, particularly for the May schedule.

## **May 2021 – schedule for Benefice churches**

5 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Ryston
		11.00 am	Morning Prayer	Denver
		8.00 pm	Zoom Service	Bexwell
Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	3.00 pm	Holy Communion	Oakes Court (TBC)
6 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	9 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Crimplesham
		11.00 am	Matins	Denver
		8.00 pm	Zoom Service	Bexwell
Thursday Ascension Day	13 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Holy Communion	Denver
7 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Bexwell
		11.00 am	Holy Communion	Denver
		<del>6.30 pm</del>	<del>Evensong</del>	<del>Ryston</del> Cancelled
		8.00pm	Zoom Service	Bexwell
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Pentecost	23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	Crimplesham
		11.00 am	Family Service	Denver
		8.00 pm	Zoom Service	Bexwell
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Trinity	30 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Benefice Service	Ryston
		11.00 am	Holy Communion	TBC
		8.00 pm	Zoom Service	Bexwell



## NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

### ST MARY'S, DENVER



If you know of anyone who needs prayers please contact Carol Hewitt on 388319, or Hilda Bungay on 383904.

If you are unable to get to church and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Revd William Burke: 07770 630202 or [wsdburke@outlook.com](mailto:wsdburke@outlook.com) or Mary Hurst: 01366 383867

### Supporting your church with the Parish Giving Scheme (See PGS on p. 7) – Denver

If you wish to receive the Parish Giving Scheme Donor Gift pack, please contact either: - David Wilson (Treasurer) 07555 960036 [davidwilson1312@gmail.com](mailto:davidwilson1312@gmail.com) or Christine Davies (PCC Secretary) 01366 385428 [n.davies281@btinternet.com](mailto:n.davies281@btinternet.com)  
If you would like further information about the scheme before deciding please visit [www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/)



**ST MARY'S, CRIMPLESHAM**

Church Sunday services are suspended for the time being, but Private Prayer can be arranged by appointment by contacting Jim Lane on 01366 383121.

We will be returning to our Sunday services at St. Mary's Crimplesham with HOLY COMMUNION at 9.30am on EASTER SUNDAY 4th. April. Due to Covid restrictions we are at less than 50% capacity so please ring JESSICA on 01366 387806 or JIM on 01366 383121 to book your pew for EASTER SUNDAY.  
Then it will be MORNING PRAYER on the 4th. Sunday April 25th. at 9.30am.  
We will still have to follow the Covid restrictions for these services.

### Neighbourly support & information

If you have access to a computer there is a Facebook page for "Crimplesham Residents". Anyone who lives in Crimplesham can request to join the group. The page is updated with local information. If anyone needs help with collecting prescriptions or shopping please let Facebook know and someone will be able to help.



## ST MICHAEL'S, RYSTON



2<sup>nd</sup>. Sunday of Easter, at 9.30am, Holy Communion at Ryston.

## ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BEXWELL



**Bexwell Services - any changes to the regular scheme will be announced in advance by email**

### April-May Services

As befits a church built in the 10th century and now looked after by 21st century people, the services range in style from Ancient (Compline) to Evening Prayer (Traditional) to Prayers and Meditations (Modern) to Music Re-imagined (Just very different).

1 <sup>st</sup> . Sunday	8:00pm	Compline - This isn't just traditional, it's ancient. Its roots go back into the mists of time, with quiet calm and Gregorian-style singing.	Zoom
2 <sup>nd</sup> . Sunday	8:00pm	Evening Prayer - a traditional Evening Prayer	Zoom
3 <sup>rd</sup> . Sunday	8.00pm	Prayer and Meditations - gives us the opportunity to hold a much more 'open' type of service, with alternative liturgy, poems, and different types of readings.	Zoom
4 <sup>th</sup> . Sunday	8.00pm	Prayer and Meditations or Compline	Zoom
5 <sup>th</sup> . Sunday When there is one.	8:00pm	Music Re-imagined - A chance for us to vote for music that we have accumulated in our Bexwell Vault and have used in previous services. No liturgy, just friendship.	Zoom

**Link to Bexwell Zoom services:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3119595155?pwd=dy9nNzRJby91OVprZG9nSzIMSElPZz09>

**Direct reminder of online services**

If you would like to join us at our online services please email to [carole@reich.me.uk](mailto:carole@reich.me.uk) and you will be included in the emails which have the link for services.

**Bexwell Church Parish Profile**

This year we have developed our Parish Profile in a paper and video format. If you would like to know a little about Bexwell Church please use this link and watch our video <https://youtu.be/Gt5PL147vDc>

There are 13 images to see and they have been timed to allow you to read the content

We are now registered with the Parish Giving Scheme so if you would like more information please e-mail to [friendsofbexwell@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbexwell@gmail.com) with Parish Giving Scheme in the subject line and your mailing address so that information can be sent to you. If you follow this link you can get further information about the scheme and how it works <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/>



## Denver VC Primary School

### ***“Discover – Value – Celebrate – Praise”***

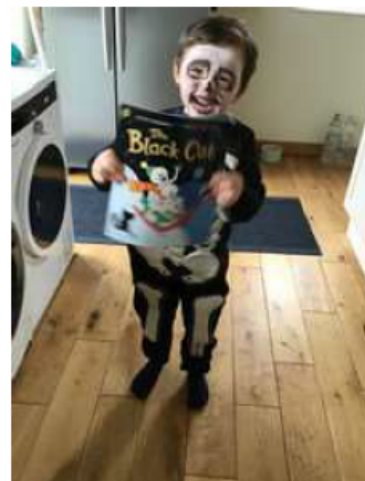
What a challenging term the school has had! From the announcement that schools would close on 4<sup>th</sup> January, to the challenges of remote learning, and of course the children’s return on 8<sup>th</sup> March, they’ve had it all this term! Although looking back it has been a difficult term, there have been many positives with many in the community pulling together. Here is a little insight into the day-to-day life of Denver VC School.

#### Covid-19

The school feels extremely fortunate that to date they have not had any positive cases of Covid-19 during the term. This is testament to the control measures in place, and the response of the whole school community in working together to make the school as safe a place as is possible. We hope that this continues during the holiday but the school has measures in place to ensure correct advice is given to their families and appropriate authorities are notified. As with other schools, they have available lateral flow tests for use by the school families.

#### World Book Day

Although World Book Day fell in the school closure period, it did not stop everyone from celebrating, both in school and at home. As usual, the children dressed up as their favourite book characters and took part in different activities to celebrate reading. They also took home a £1 World Book Day voucher. Here are some children in Class 1 in their fantastic costumes.



#### Toys

Throughout this term, the children in Classes 1 and 2 have been studying toys from long ago. They would normally visit Ely Museum to learn more about this topic, however the museum is currently closed due to coronavirus. Instead, an online session with the museum was organised for both the children in school and at home. On the children’s return, they were able to handle the resources that had been left in school. The children enjoyed discovering the toys and asking lots of questions.





### English Football League – The Joy of Movement

Children across the school were treated to a special welcome back assembly on March 8th focussing on the positivity of physical exercise and the values of the 'EFL -The Joy of Movement Winter Games' which link closely to wellbeing.

The assembly was led by representatives of Norwich City Community Sports Foundation. They linked up via Microsoft Teams to the 4 bubbles. The assembly gave the children opportunities to be active by playing games such as 'Do this, do that' and 'Guess the sport'. In between activities the children were given opportunities to reflect on their experiences during lockdown, celebrating achievements, their feelings about returning to school and what they hope to achieve in the coming weeks and months.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience that had the children smiling (as you can see from the pictures) and interacting in a positive way and banishing any butterflies on the very first day back to school after lockdown.



### Mothering Sunday Posies

On March 12<sup>th</sup>, the school continued with tradition and once again made Mothering Sunday posies in school. People from across the benefice helped by collecting greenery, sorting out oasis and plastic trays, which will be collected to re-use next year. The children made some lovely arrangements for their mums.

### Pantomime Fun

On 12<sup>th</sup> March, to mark the end to a positive first week back at school, the children were treated to watching a recorded version of The Wizard of Oz. To help bring the theatre to the classrooms, including ice cream and popcorn for the children to enjoy.

### Comic Relief

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March, the school held a non-uniform day to mark Comic Relief. A number of children came to school wearing their red noses. They raised a total of £93.50 which was split between the School Council Funds and Comic Relief.

### Bishop Stephen's Lent Challenge

Throughout the period of Lent, the school have been engaged with Bishop Stephen's Lent Challenge, the theme of which this year has been about hope and the future. Each week during Lent, the children have looked at a different theme and thought carefully about what their hopes are for the future. The children engaged with a range of activities, including writing prayers of hope. They also worked on a song about hope with Mr Lawrence and for the first time in a year the school gathered together, socially distanced, on the playground to record a final version. They also reached out to the local community, in particular care homes, to send Easter messages to bring some much-needed joy to those most affected by the pandemic.



### Easter Fun

For Easter each child was sent home with an Easter egg generously donated by our former Vicar, Judith Grundy. Waitrose also kindly donated eggs for the children which they had to find during an Easter egg hunt.



(Parents have given their consent for the photos of their children to be taken and shown here)

We are unique! We have free Wi-Fi in Denver church, thanks to **itswisp**

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DENVER NOW!**

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**itswisp** 01603 425209  
[www.itswisp.co.uk](http://www.itswisp.co.uk)  
[enquiries@intouchsystems.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@intouchsystems.co.uk)

The advertisement features a dark blue background with a hexagonal pattern. At the top, the text 'SUPERFAST BROADBAND AVAILABLE IN DENVER NOW!' is written in large, white, bold capital letters. Below this, there are eight circular icons arranged in two rows of four. The icons represent various services: a power button, a play button, a telephone, a magnifying glass, an envelope, a speech bubble, a key, and a bar chart. Below the icons, the text 'Download speeds of up to 30 mbps, ready to order now. Typical install within 30 days. Contact us to find out more: www.itswisp.co.uk' is displayed. At the bottom, the 'itswisp' logo is shown next to the phone number '01603 425209' and the website 'www.itswisp.co.uk'. The email address 'enquiries@intouchsystems.co.uk' is also provided.

**itswisp / intouch systems – they're going places & your home in Denver or elsewhere could score by going with them! Worth enquiring.**

 <h3>Engineering</h3> <p>We provide only DBS checked, fully trained, consistently dedicated in-house InTouch engineers to service all on-site IT support contracts.</p>	 <h3>Telecoms</h3> <p>As an accredited partner, using AVAYA &amp; Ericsson-LG IPECS technology we place our customers at the forefront of convergence solutions.</p>	 <h3>Internet &amp; Broadband</h3> <p>We offer a wide range of internet services, FTTC, FTTP, leased lines, satellite, WISP, whole home Wi-Fi solutions, 4G &amp; 5G rapid deployment.</p>
 <h3>Education</h3> <p>We supply, install and manage a whole range of IT integrated services for education, from broadband through to IT consultancy &amp; project management.</p>	 <h3>Cloud Computing</h3> <p>Cloud computing to suit your business needs. We host your data systems providing you with secure, centralised, professionally managed services.</p>	 <h3>Managed Services</h3> <p>For busy professionals needing the power &amp; space of a dedicated server, preferring to leave the system management &amp; monitoring to our in-house experts.</p>

The image shows a 2x3 grid of service tiles. Each tile has a colored background, an icon, a title, and a description. The tiles are: Engineering (blue), Telecoms (yellow), Internet & Broadband (green), Education (dark blue), Cloud Computing (orange), and Managed Services (purple). The icons are: a gear for Engineering, a phone handset for Telecoms, a globe for Internet & Broadband, an atom for Education, a cloud for Cloud Computing, and a monitor for Managed Services.