

Diocese of Manchester  
Parish of St John the Evangelist  
Farnworth & Kearsley  
Annual Report for 2024



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## **Chair's report**

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we gather here today at the close of another year, we look back on the journey we have taken together as a family of faith. The Lord has guided our steps through moments of great joy and times of trial, and in every season, His grace has been sufficient for us.

This period has brought with it highs and lows. We have seen much progress across the team, in our buildings, in terms of growth, new services, and many new volunteers stepping forward in exciting ways. We have celebrated new life, welcomed new members into our flock, and seen God's hand at work in the hearts of so many. These moments remind us of His goodness, His provision, and the unbreakable bond we share as His children.

But alongside our triumphs, we have also faced our share of challenges. We have experienced the tragic passing of dear friends, the trials of failing buildings and surrounding walls, and financial struggles—only to see our Parish share reduced drastically by the grace of God. We have wept with those who mourn and lifted those who felt weary. And yet, through every trial, God has remained our refuge and strength. He has turned our mourning into joy, our doubts into faith, and our fears into hope. We have seen His light shine even in the darkest moments, reminding us that we are never alone.

Amid these challenges, we have also celebrated great highs. We rejoice in the appointment of new Authorised Lay Ministers, and we are excited by those seeking Ordained Ministry and Reader ministry. A well-received Advent course has prepared excellent ground for a new Bible study group, and we look forward with anticipation to celebrating St John the Evangelist's 200-year centenary.

As we stand on the threshold of a new year, let us not be discouraged by the difficulties of the past but instead, let us carry forward the lessons we have learned. Let us continue to love one another, to serve with humble hearts, and to place our trust in God, who makes all things new. His plans for us are good, and His promises are unwavering. Whatever lies ahead, we walk into the future hand in hand, united in faith, bound by love, and strengthened by hope.

So, my dear brothers and sisters, let us welcome the new year with hearts full of gratitude and expectation. Let us shine as beacons of Christ's love, bringing light to the world around us. May our faith grow deeper, our love grow stronger, and our hope remain unshaken.

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May He guide your steps, fill your hearts with peace, and grant you His abundant joy in the coming year.

Amen.

**Fr Stephen**

**Team Rector and Chair of St John the Evangelist Church PCC**

## PCC Secretary's Report

The year began with PCC meetings on **17 January 2024** and **6 March 2024**.

Over the **27 to 29 February 2024**, 'Experience Easter' was offered to seven local schools with nine classes attending. In small groups they had a chance to 'walk into Jerusalem', learn about the Servant King and partake of a 'Last Supper.' They visited the Garden of Gethsemane and found out about the Crucifixion. Then they explored the Resurrection of Jesus coming together for a consolidation of the Easter story. Many thanks to Kim, Alison, Denise, Gill, Judith, June and Susan for delivering this experience to over 260 children! A number of lovely thank you letters were received from the children.

An All-age Communion was held celebrating Easter Sunday on **31 March 2024**. At the beginning of the service the congregation were invited to place a fresh flower on the cross in front of the pulpit. The church was beautifully decorated.



The Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting, the Parish Church Meeting and the First Parochial Church Council Meeting took place on **8 May 2024**. There were unanimous votes in favour of the appointments as warden of Judith Birchall and Jackie Powell. Denise Entwistle was unanimously elected as Deputy Warden. Deanery Synod Representatives Alison Mole, Jackie Powell, Steve Mann had been appointed the previous year for three years. John Pritchard was elected as auditor by way of unanimous in favour and Antony Hemming as Gift Aid Officer with a unanimous vote in favour.



The following were elected to serve: Stephanie Buckley, Denise Entwistle, Sharon Goodwin, Susan Stevens, Michelle Winter, Jackie Powell, Alison Mole, Steve Mann, Cynthia Gethin, Victoria Gethin, Chris Gee, Anthony Hemming.

The PCC met again on **7 June 2024**.

St Johns Summer Fair took place on **8 June 2024** at Trinity Church. St John's School Choir did a wonderful job singing and opening the Fair. There were lots of stalls and games including the Tombola, Name the Teddy, Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar, Hook a Duck, Mystery bags, Pick a card, Bullseye and Play Your Cards Right. Refreshments were available and stalls sold cakes, Father's Day gifts and plants including tomato plants, sunflowers, strawberries and various vegetables. Over £2,100 was raised for the church which is a fantastic amount. Thank you to everyone who attended and many thanks to all those who volunteered their time running stalls and particularly Susan Stevens who did a fantastic job in coordinating the event. Thank you also to the Brownies who contributed including making gifts for Fair and selling raffle tickets.



The Harvest Festival **October** All Age service was led by Steph Buckley, Liz Cook and Alison Mole and opened with the Brownie flag presentation. The talk by Liz Cook focussed on the link to harvest time and recognising our environment, having been summoned by God to care for His creation including praying for those in other countries affected by flood,

drought and severe heat and striving to do our best to care for the earth and the ways in which we can do this in every day life.

The **PCC met on 4 September 2024 and 20 November 2024**. Fr Stephen had raised over £1000 for the advent and bible study course and money was still being collected for Mission Fund, to buy new King James bibles with the intention to give them away to members of Bible study. Very positively, as was confirmed at the PCC meeting on 4 September 2024 the church saw a significant reduction in its Parish Share from £41,000 to £14,000. At the 20 November meeting the PCC agreed to pay £15k towards the Parish Share.

On **10 November** the All Age Service of Remembrance was held. Wreaths were laid, the names of all from church who had lost their lives during the First and Second World Wars were read and petals fell from the balconies during the Last Post.

Through the year the all age services have been very well attended. Many thanks to Alison, Steph and Liz for all their hard work.

Over the **26 to 28 November 2024** seven local schools attended our 'Experience Christmas' Event. The children (about 260!) learned about the Christian story of Christmas. With the help of six volunteers, Alison Bradbury, Judith Birchall, Gill Hadfield, Susan Stevens, Denise Entwistle and Kim McIntyre.

The Christmas Fair was held on a very wet and windy Saturday **7 December 2024**. Fortunately, people braved the weather and they were treated to St John's school choir singing to open the Fair. There were various stalls, including the Raffle, the Tombola, Elfridge's, Homemade cakes, Guess the Name of the Penguin, Secret Santa, Christmas Tree Tombola and of course a visit from Santa. £1679 was raised. Well done to all involved and many thanks to all those who volunteered.

**Sunday 8 December 2024** saw St John's with a very full congregation for the annual carol service. The Arch Deacon Rachael Mann and the Area Dean Simon Cooke joined us. All three church schools were represented, singing a song or carol each. Lots of parents and extended families attended which meant using the balcony seats because the main body of church was full. It was a fantastic service and a great start to Advent/Christmas celebrations.

On **24 December 2024** St Johns held the annual Christingle Service and **Midnight Mass** was held at the earlier time of 9pm when it is midnight in Bethlehem.

**Victoria Gethin, PCC secretary**

### **Treasurer report**

As we look at the accounts for 2024 and compare from the previous year it isn't great reading.

We finished the year with an overall deficit of just over £300.00 which isn't as bad as the previous year. Regular giving is down by over £3,200 but one-off loose giving on the plate has risen by over £1200.00 which offsets the regular giving but still shows our giving has dropped.

There is however some good news on income, the highlights being fairs and events which raised much the same as last year at just short of £5,000, so a great big thank you to all who help organise and volunteer their time to make these fairs a success.

Funerals are up by nearly £4,000 and mast rental is up by almost £1,000.

Concerning Expenditure, our biggest expense as previous years is Gas and Electric which cost us £17,000 more than 2023! This is historically our biggest expenditure and goes up by a substantial amount year on year.

We also paid over £10,000 more towards our Quota than the previous year.

I would like to close by thanking all the people who help me out through the year, Tony Hemming, Steve Mann and Shaun.

**Sandra Croston, Treasurer**

### **Planned Giving and Gift Aid**

In 2024 there were 30 regular donors (giving either via an envelope or through a bank standing order), 24 taxpayers and 6 non-taxpayers.

Donations from the 24 taxpayers amounted to £10,771.21 and from the non-taxpayers £2,525.00 giving a total of £13,296.21.

The tax reclaimed in 2024 from those who had signed up to the Gift Aid Scheme plus those who had signed One-off Gift Aid envelopes amounted to £3,229.12. Please note that the tax reclaimed in 2024 is dependent on income received in the tax year ending in 2024 rather than the calendar year.

Due to HMRC's Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (or GASDS for short) which was introduced in April 2013, we are now able to claim 'top-up' payments on amounts of up to £8,000 on none Gift Aided cash donations of £30 or less. The income from this amounted to £1,425.63.

Thank you to all who contribute through Planned Giving and the Gift Aid Scheme.

**Tony Hemming, Gift Aid Officer**

### **Warden report**

The Churchwardens would firstly like to thank you for your continued support.

This year has been quite challenging what with the finances and the continued disruption of the building work still needing to be sorted. On a good note, we were able to get our quota reduced to £14k from £40k and we managed to pay an extra £1k.

The All-Age Service is very well attended with around 70 people attending. Here we need to especially thank Alison Steph and Liz for all their work in planning and delivering these services. The normal services are attended by around 30/40 people. The carol service saw our schools and brownies singing which was fantastic and saw around 200 people joining in; it was great to see the church so full.

Fundraising has been difficult this year but due to Susan and her team who helped at the church fairs we raised around £4k. We have been unable to organise anything else due to the need of the building work needing to be done. So, thanks to Susan and her team.

The church puts on experience Easter and experience Christmas events where our church schools, the local catholic school and some of our community schools attend. Thanks to Kim and her team.

Let us now ask God for His help and guidance as we move forward to continue to worship here and with His help grow the congregation and our faith.

**Judith, Jackie & Denise, Wardens and Deputy Warden**

### **Authorised Lay Minister report**

Another year has passed.....

Another year of ALMing at St.John's.

My church life continues to be of great importance to me and I enjoy co-leading the services with Stephen.

Our intergenerational service on the second Sunday of each month has continued to thrive. Myself, Steph and Liz continue to receive great feedback from the congregation each month saying how much they enjoy coming.

We have continued to have new worship songs with or without actions and traditional hymns. We encourage participation of the congregation. It is amazing to see how the confidence of members of the congregation has grown and have become very willing volunteers to join in.

I find my Authorised Lay Ministry very rewarding and enjoyable and would greatly encourage others to look at the training. I am always encouraged and amazed by the support I receive from all at church.



Who knows what the next 12 months will have in store for us as we know that Stephen is going on sabbatical 3 months but team work and supporting each other and talking, listening and trusting in God will more important than ever.

Remember – All will be well

**Alison Mole, Authorised Lay Minister**

### **Electoral Roll Officer's report**

#### **Electoral Roll**



**Belong**



**Participate**



**Contribute**

In accordance with Church of England regulations the Electoral Roll is required to be renewed every six years. This year 2025 is the year for this action.

The Electoral Roll started last year at 114 members as I informed everyone in my report last year.

Having displayed the legal notices and provided new application forms the new 2025 Electoral Roll, only has 50 applicants. Many of which are new.

I understand that this is due to the death of some older members but mostly due to members moving away. I was aware of this and shared my concerns last year.

Hopefully, we may attract some new members during the year.

**Kim McIntyre, Electoral Roll Officer**

### **Child Protection**

All the members of the PCC have or are in the process of getting their DBS so we will be fully compliant. They are also doing their safeguarding training; volunteers who help at events are in the process of doing this.

No safeguarding issues have been reported to me which I am happy about because it means we are a safe place for young children and vulnerable adults.

I thank God for His guidance in my first year of being the Safeguarding Officer and that we can offer a safe and welcoming to worship.

Please do not hesitate to speak to me if you have any concerns.

**Jackie Powell, Child Protection Officer**

## Social Media Report

Facebook and Twitter followers are both still actively used. Facebook followers have shown a small increase from 519 to 528. Twitter following is steady. We no longer have access to the website statistics and so we are not able to monitor activity.

Thank you to all that have made contributions, please keep up the good work. The more we use these sites, the more useful they become.

**Steve Mann**



## Head Teacher Report for the Parish from All Saints' CE Primary

'With God, all things are possible' Matthew 19:26

This is my first annual report as Head Teacher at All Saints. Whilst I have been with the school since September 2012, I feel enormously blessed and privileged to now lead such an amazing school community. Our three core values are Friendship, Fellowship and Hope, and they continue to underpin all that we do.

### Friendship



The relationships between staff, children, parents and wider community are one of the many strengths at All Saints. The power of these friendships supports me and all the staff through challenging times that may arise. Our OPAL Play Scheme, that is now predominantly facilitated by the children themselves, allows children to develop friendships through play. Our High Needs Base Nursery provision, offering 6 places each morning and afternoon to children with additional needs goes from strength to strength. The children are placed with us by Bolton LA but spend time in our outdoor area with the rest of our Nursery children. It's uplifting to see all our children develop their friendships through play.

As always, our church friends continue to support in so many ways. Our children love Fr Stephen's weekly worship. The Y6 children attended the Diocesan Leavers' service at Manchester cathedral. Our children have enjoyed coming to Experience Christmas and

Experience Easter and the school choir take part in events held in St John's Church. I attended my own Head Teacher commissioning service at Manchester Cathedral in October and continue to benefit from a programme of support from the Diocese aimed at new Head Teachers. More recently, I was blessed to be a part of the 'Love Your School' initiative where Alison Adlum and Steph Buckley dropped in at All Saints during their prayer walk. One of our governors, Kim McIntyre, also joined us at school. The chat, cup of tea and prayer was the "pause" that we all need to take at times.

### **Fellowship**

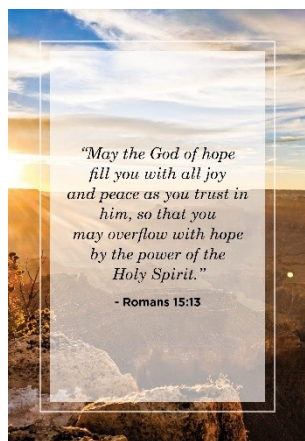
*"Our love to God is measured by our everyday fellowship with others and the love it displays." (Andrew Murray)*

Our community at All Saints is incredibly diverse, and this really is one of the best things about our school. Our children learn about different faiths, cultures, and family backgrounds every day, as they chat to their friends. Our Muslim families join us in our Nativity and Carol Services as well as our Easter service. Our Christian families join us at our Eid assembly. This year the Muslim festival of Ramadan has fallen at the same time as Lent and so we have had lots of opportunities to draw parallels between these holy times. Our community also worked together for our annual Harvest collection and worship, where we donate to the foodbank at The Well. We are also very much looking forward to our first "Fellowship Week" celebrations due to take place in April.

We have continued to work closely with our other Farnworth schools. #Farnworth matters is now a well-established part of the Y5 calendar, and the end of year celebration event at Bolton school is an amazing celebration of all that they do. Our KS2 children are also a part of the Farnworth Combined initiative which sees local school councils working together.

### **Hope**

The Children Changing Places Project continues to engage our children in activities that support the growth of the Christian faith in schools, parishes and the home. We welcomed Ni-Cola Scott and her team into school in October where they delivered an assembly and worked with some of our KS2 classes.



We continue to develop our academic support for children. Our Maths progress was in the top 3% nationally, and our phonics and times tables data were also above average. With the drop in birth rate and challenging times for schools filling places, we are fortunate that we expect to be close to full for our September 2025 intake and have taken an additional class into KS2 in September 2025. I worked closely with and was guided by the previous Head Teacher, who gave me the courage to apply for this position. I trust

in God, the school and church community to support me in leading All Saints for the good of all. Please continue to hold All Saints in your prayers.

**Helen Bullock, Headteacher, All Saints**



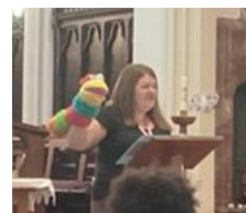
## St John's CE Primary School Head teacher's Report for the Parish

*'For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you, plans to give you hope and a future.'*

As the Acting Head Teacher, I am delighted to share this annual report, reflecting on a year of growth, faith, and community at St John's CE Primary School. As a school rooted in Christian values, we remain committed to nurturing our children's spiritual, academic, and personal growth. This year has been filled with opportunities for our children to learn, lead, and give back, strengthening our ties with both the parish and the wider community.

In September a number of our pupils joined children from across the Archbishop Temple Trust to complete Children chaplaincy training. The children worked alongside Canon Jill Pilling and Revd Ian in order to equip them with the skills to be able to lead prayer and worship within their class and across the school. It has been great to see these children from the Ethos team, grow in confidence, deepening their faith and leadership skills.

Our daily collective worship remains a cornerstone of school life, providing a time for reflection, prayer and the celebration of Christian values. A special service took place on 20<sup>th</sup> September 24, when we held the 'Seeds and Gardeners' worship at St John's Church. During this interactive service, the new reception children were warmly welcomed into the St John's family, supported by their Year 6 'gardeners', marking the beginning of their seven-year journey with us. Steph, Alison and Claire, from Children Changing places led a short Wiggle Worship within the service and introduced the children to 'Wiggle the Bookworm'. 'Wiggle' has visited our Key Stage one classes a number of times since September and we look forwards to inviting him to other worships before the end of the academic year.



October was another busy month, with all the classes creating an Olympic themed scarecrow for the Farnworth and Kearsley Scarecrow festival, followed by our amazing Harvest worship led by the children. Each class led a short presentation on how harvest is celebrated in another country around the world and we managed to donate a huge amount of food to the Farnworth Food Bank. These donations helped families in the local area at their time of need.

After a few false starts, we were excited to announce on 1st November that we officially joined the Archbishop Temple Academy Trust! This new chapter marked an important milestone for our school.

Becoming part of the Trust brings a wealth of new opportunities, resources, and support that will enhance our children's educational experience and further strengthen our community. We are looking forward to the many ways this partnership will contribute to our growth and success in the coming months and years.



As part of our Remembrance Day celebrations, Year 4 and 6 attended a service of remembrance at Bolton Parish Church with over 450 children from the five trust schools. Canon Jill Pilling CEO led the service alongside Revd Hannah Lane and the Right Reverend Mark

Davies, Bishop of Middleton. The five trust choirs sang a beautiful compilation of war time songs, including 'This is the army Mrs Jones, Bless 'Em Al, Washing on the Siegfried Line and We'll meet again'.

It was great to see so many children and staff dressed up and embracing the Remembrance Day theme and the children completed a variety of activities that were displayed with our library.



The festive season at St John's was filled with joy, celebration, and community spirit! We kicked off the festivities with the 'Hey Ewe' nativity, a delightful performance that showcased our talented Reception, Year 1 and 2 children and brought smiles to faces throughout the school. Their enthusiasm, confidence, and hard work made it a truly special event for families and the school community.



Our youngest children in Rabbits Class had a magical time at their special Elf Breakfast alongside their parents and families, adding to the excitement and wonder of Christmas. The rest of the school were treated to an in-house pantomime of Beauty and the Beast, which all the children thoroughly enjoyed. Laughter and excitement filled the building as they experienced this festive tradition together.

St John's school choir were particularly busy in the lead-up to Christmas, opening the St John's Church Christmas Fair and singing carols for local residents at Farnworth Care Home. They also spent time making Christmas decorations with the residents, bringing joy and fostering intergenerational connections.



Another highlight of our Christmas celebrations was the Christingle and Carol services, both beautifully led by the children. These meaningful services brought our school and parish together in worship, celebrating the light of Christ during the festive season.





Throughout the Spring term, we have continued to work closely with Andy Wynne, from Healthy Minds UK, to support children with their mental health and help them develop coping strategies for different situations they might find themselves in. So far, the children have had the Brain Dome experience and took part in the #BeYouProject, where children used emojis to express their emotions in response to events in their lives. These workshops are always amazing and the children learn a great deal that they can use in their everyday lives.



As we look to the future, we are excited about further strengthening our links with the church. Plans for the coming year include:

- Developing a joint initiative to support well-being and mental health through faith-based activities.
- Expanding our community service projects to reach more families in need.
- Enhancing our worship and RE curriculum with new resources and experiences for the children.

Myself, the staff and children at St John's are grateful for the church's continued support and prayers. Your partnership plays a vital role in our school's success, and we look forward to working together to nurture the faith and learning of our children in the years ahead.

Thank you for your ongoing encouragement and commitment to St John's CE Primary School.

With blessings,

**Emma Barr, Acting Headteacher, St Johns**

**St. Peter's C.E. Primary School**  
**Head teachers Report for the Parish**



2024 was once again a year filled with opportunities for our community to work with purposeful effort, driving forward our school aims, ethos, values and vision. It was an exciting time as we said goodbye to Mrs Williams, but welcomed Mrs Scott as she undertook her role as our new full time Head Teacher.

**What is our school Christian vision?**

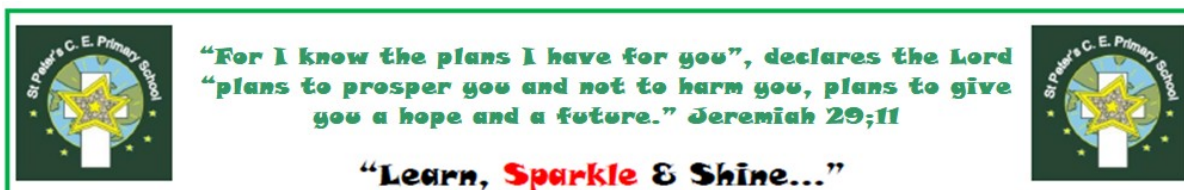
**Our values, rooted in our Christian FAITH, are the underlying guiding principles of all our work.**



Our vision is to develop our children to enable them to create the future they aspire for themselves, inspired by God, influenced by the teachings of Jesus and underpinned by Christian Values; rooted in The Bible and the word of God.

Our intention is that our children will “contribute to and prosper in society”, bringing God’s plan for them to fruition.

Our school purpose is to signal a route to a life that many don’t think possible! We aim to maximise social mobility, with God’s support & guidance! This purpose is embedded in the following words taken from The Bible Jeremiah 29;11



We believe this purpose and Christian vision will be achieved if we provide an environment where our children are enabled to “Learn, Sparkle & Shine...”

### But what does “Learn, Sparkle & Shine...” mean?

Our school demographics and context require that we provide a curriculum that;

- ☐ promotes high aspiration (**learn**) Provide wisdom
- ☐ encourages positive attitudes, resilience and strong mental health (**sparkle**) Provide dignity and hope and,
- ☐ develops positive citizens with a strong sense of community through promoting Christian and British values (**shine**) Promote community spirit



Our daily work is dedicated to achieving these aims so that our children leave school ready to be beacons of light in society.



At St. Peter's each term is dedicated to promoting a particular Christian value, linked to a theme which the children are able to commit to memory and recite to SLT, staff and each other; to ensure the message is embedded for the children and is linked to their thoughts and actions. Weekly worship is dedicated to exemplifying and developing the children's knowledge and understanding of that theme, through song, story and prayer. The themes for the spring and summer terms of the 23-24 and Autumn term of 24-25 academic year are shown below.

"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

**"Learn, Sparkle & Shine..."**

"Always giving thanks to God the Father for all things. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" Ephesians 5:20-21

Spring 1 2024

**Christian Value**  
**Respect**

"And give thanks for everything in the name of the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ."

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

**"Learn, Sparkle & Shine..."**

**Sunshine of Values**

Trust, Hope, Respect, Forgiveness, Honesty, Friendship, Love

"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

**"Learn, Sparkle & Shine..."**

"For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. Matthew 6:14

Spring 2 2024

**Christian Value**  
**Forgiveness**

If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. Matthew 6:14

The previous emotional and spiritual wellbeing of staff, pupils and our wider community at St. Anne's is linked to wellbeing which are underpinned by some fundamental principles of behaviour and a commitment to our Christian values.

F Forgiveness and Friendship  
A Always respectful  
I Inclusion - all welcome  
H Honesty and Hope

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

**"Learn, Sparkle & Shine..."**

"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

**"Learn, Sparkle & Shine..."**

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." Proverbs 3:5-6

Summer 2 2024

**Christian Value**  
**Trust**

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

The previous emotional and spiritual wellbeing of staff, pupils and our wider community at St. Anne's is linked to wellbeing which are underpinned by some fundamental principles of behaviour and a commitment to our Christian values.

F Forgiveness and Friendship  
A Always respectful  
I Inclusion - all welcome  
H Honesty and Hope

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

**"Learn, Sparkle & Shine..."**

"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

**"Encourage one another and build each other up!"**

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Autumn 1 2024

**Christian Values**  
**Friendship and perseverance**

ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER AND BUILD EACH OTHER UP 1 THESSALONIANS 5:11

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

**"Learn, Sparkle & Shine..."**

**Sunshine of Values**

Trust, Hope, Respect, Forgiveness, Honesty, Friendship, Love

"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

**"May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace!"** Romans 15:13

Autumn 2 2024

**Christian Values**  
**Hope**  
**Thankfulness**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

**"Learn, Sparkle & Shine..."**

**Sunshine of Values**

Trust, Hope, Respect, Forgiveness, Honesty, Friendship, Love

Some of the opportunities for our pupils to 'sparkle' through curriculum enrichment

January 2024 - December 2024



Commando Joe with Year 6 inspired by Amelia Urhart – autumn 2024	Year 3 Topic Stone Age Autumn 2024	M and M Theatre visit July 2024
		
Year 1 trip to Lytham Beach	Healthy Mindz across KS2 July 2024	STEM club celebration at Smithills May 2024
		

Project Chameleon Year 5 and 3	Year 2 link school with Millbrook in Wigan	Ian Bland Poet visit Summer 2024
		
Fort Alice visit to Year 6	The Dog Trust visit	Year 5 invited to Blue Peter
		

### Visit from Bart Gee

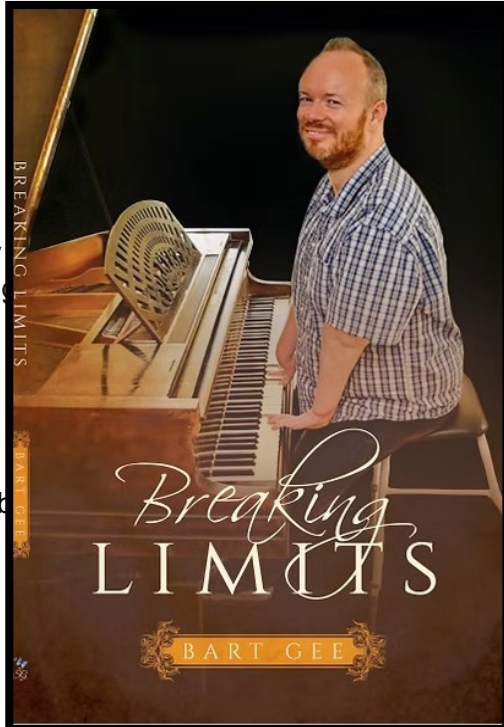
In June 2024 we were delighted and honoured to be visited by Bart Gee. Bart





was  
may  
being

Bart  
God  
are b  
with



throg  
it up



he children to understand that when you pray to  
ion, this is God who knows no impossibility, limits  
s found in his own life and shared his experience

# Shades Project



In July 2024 Mr Lane and Year 5 embarked on the Shades Project. Shades is a racial justice and faith project, designed to support schools and churches to be a place of belonging and flourishing for everyone, celebrating the rich diversity of our school, helping to embed anti-racist practice within our schools and churches.







The project aims to develop discipleship pathways for children, young people and their families, enabling them to grow in their Christian faith and to belong to a thriving church community. The Shade Team works with Church of England primary and secondary schools and parishes across Manchester Diocese.

The Shades team are working with Year 6 this academic year. A team of pupil 'Shades' Ambassadors will be working on a project together from Spring Term 2025.



## Pupil led services

Our pupil led services continue to be a highlight of our school year, with attendance from our parents often leading to the school hall being standing room only.

<p><b>EYFS Nativity</b></p> 	<p><b>Key Stage 2 Carol Service</b></p> 	<p><b>Harvest</b></p> 
<p><b>Remembrance</b></p> 	<p><b>Easter</b></p> 	<p><b>Shine leading Forgiveness worship</b></p> 



## Partnership with the Parish.







Our partnership with the parish continues to flourish

The children are regular visitors to St Johns Church and participate in all the 'Experience' events that the church hosts. It was lovely to see Y2 experiencing a sense of awe and wonder as they were allowed to 'investigate and explore' the church as part of their curriculum work. Year 3 have been part of the experience Easter too. Year 6 loved the leavers service presented at St John's when Mrs Williams was acknowledged for her retirement.

Father Stephen continues to be a valuable provider of spiritual guidance for our school community; staff and pupils alike, through his inspirational and entertaining weekly Wednesday worship. We thank him for his guidance and presence in our school.

Father Stephen leads worship weekly on a Wednesday and he always uses an engaging way to teach the children.

The Shine Team had a new challenge to lead worship and to lead Wiggle worship with EYSF, which they did brilliantly. Children changing places led through the diocese continues to support our year 6 leavers and this year, year 3 were also involved.

Father Stephen's Worship	Year 3 Children Changing places	Year 6 Children Changing Places
		<p>Today we had sessions with The Changing Places Project where we spoke about how God can help us on our transition to High School.</p> 
Year 2 visit to St John's Church	Shine Team leading Wiggle Worship	Year 5 visit to the temple
		

Café Church is now a well-established monthly event, held in school and led by Mrs Buckley. The congregation continues to grow each month, not only in number, but also in generosity of spirit and engagement. The monthly services, involving craft, fun, song and prayer are a source of spiritual flourishing and friendly comfort for all those who attend,

Our weekly “peopods” parent and toddler group also has a foundation in our Christian values and provides a nurturing space for our youngest Farnworthians each Thursday morning.

### **SIAMs visit**

In June 2024 we received our SIAMs visit. The visit overall was extremely positive and the assessor recognised the hard work we carry out as a team to ensure the very best for our pupils. Here is a snip of the positive things that were identified:

- The Christian vision is lived out through the strong support for the wellbeing of members of the school community. As a result they live well together and are lovingly cared for.
- Collective worship is an important part of the day and is highly appreciated by pupils and staff. It has a significant impact upon pupils' daily lives. It encourages them to live out the values of the school.

**Mrs Scott, Head Teacher, St Peter's CE Primary School**

### **Annual Report 2024 3<sup>rd</sup> Farnworth St John's Brownies**

2024 was another busy year for the Brownies. We began in January working for our Have Adventures Theme Award.

We enjoyed cooking Pancakes, celebrating Chinese New Year, World Thinking Day and reading prayers at the Intergenerational Service in Church. Bella gained her Gold Award and taught us card making skills for her Gold Award Challenge. We made Mother's Day gifts and cards. Easter was celebrated by making Easter Wreathes, Chocolate Nests and an Easter Bonnet Competition. We invited our families and held an Easter Egg Bingo Night, Easter Stall and Easter Egg Raffle, raising lots of money for church.

The girls worked for their Charities Badge and Be Well Award learning First Aid and CPR. We enjoyed a night at Hollywood Bowl to end the term.

We made gifts to sell at the Church Summer Fair and for Father's Day and sold lots of Raffle Tickets to our family and friends.

The Guides invited us to celebrate their Olympics Night with them.

The rest of the year was spent earning lots of Interest Badges, Know Myself Award and Take Action Award. We painted poppy pebbles and made a poppy from modelling clay and laid a wreath in church on Remembrance Sunday.

We supported the Church Christmas Fair by holding a Chocolate Tombola and selling even more Raffle Tickets.

The girls sang beautifully at the Community Carol Service in Church and all gained their Performing Badge.

The year ended with our annual visit to the Stagedoor Productions Pantomime, Cinderella, which as always did not disappoint. The final night was our Christmas Party with the Guides, Mellisa the Elf kept us entertained the whole evening.

**Susan Stevens, Brownie Leader**

### **Café Church at St Peter's**

Café Church is a fresh expression of worship in the form of a monthly informal, café style service which has been running in the Studio at St Peter's Primary School Farnworth since July 2022. Michelle Winter and I run these sessions aimed at families with a member of staff from the school attending each time to support.

During 2024 there has been a steady number of families coming along to each session, on average 50 people each month.

The format of the session has changed over the year and now begins with a time of praise and worship which explores a Christian theme or Bible story, we explore how the story or theme is relevant to our lives today and what it means. Following worship, the families have time on their tables, whilst having refreshments, to chat about the story/theme and to do a craft related to the topic. We then come back together for the last 10 minutes to recap, sing together and have a time of prayer.

Some of the stories/themes we have explored during 2024 were The Parable of the Sower and The Road to Emmaus. We have also explored Psalm 139:14 - "I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way" when we thought about how God made us all unique, like snowflakes. We made our own paper snowflakes and one mum shared this with me afterwards - "When talking about snowflakes and how each one is unique my son turned to me saying 'that's just like me, I'm unique too'."

At the end of 2024, we asked the families for feedback on what they enjoyed and what they would like to see going forward so that our planning could be informed by this. One family said that cafe church is "a wonderful way to help families learn more about the Christian faith. A less formal setting, fun hands on activities and simple retelling of the Bible stories that capture the children's attention with songs and prayers aimed specifically at their age range".

Five families said that they are keen to explore the Bible and do some separate sessions around this so Michelle and I are starting to have conversations around how we might do this.

Thank you to St Peter's School for allowing us to run this fresh expression of worship in their studio and for their staff for supporting each month

**Steph Buckley**



**Parish of Farnworth and  
Kearsley  
Statement of Account end of  
Jul  
2024**

<b><u>Income</u></b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>variance</b>
101 & 103	Parish regular giving	13235.2 1	16484.4 2	- 3249.21
104	Parish loose cash	3618.00	2351.71	1266.29
102	Reclaimed Tax	4654.75	5238.89	-584.14
105	Donations	2925.55	3894.00	-968.45
105	Bells	0.00	92.00	-92.00
203a	Fairs and events	4799.01	478.90	4320.11
203b	Charity **	304.56	5.00	299.56
		10993.1	10022.5	
402	Building rental (+Mast)	0	4	970.56
403	Magazine	169.00	208.00	-39.00
404	Weddings	700.00	506.00	194.00
404	Funerals	9014.00	5182.60	3831.40
404	Baptisms	100.00	0.00	100.00
	monies for churchyard	160.00	140.00	20.00
		16414.8		16116.7
	coffee fund	3	298.10	3
	internal transfer			0.00
	Register Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00
	insurance claim	0.00	0.00	0.00
	CBF investment fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Sundry	930.00	88.89	841.11
	Youth worker	0.00	0.00	0.00
				-
	Clergy Expenses	2436.04	6973.08	4537.04
		<b>70454.0</b>	<b>51964.1</b>	18489.9
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>

**Expenditure**

		30000.0	19849.9	10150.0
2001	Quota	0	3	7
2002	Clergy Stationary and Post	71.44	0.00	71.44
2002	Travel Expenses	0.00	972.24	-972.24
2002	Telephones	280.00	1112.15	-832.15
				-
2003	Parsonages	0.00	1610.62	1610.62
	General Council Tax			
2003		3053.71	3752.56	-698.85
		28473.2	11442.8	17030.4
2005	Heat & light & Ins St Johns	7	2	5
2006	Maintenance	2896.90	2749.91	146.99

2007	Service Requisites	659.39	797.46	-138.07
2008	Churchyard	0.00	290.00	-290.00
2016	Organists	0.00	90.00	-90.00
2016	Vergers	0.00	0.00	0.00
4000	Printer Stationary	1063.54	515.73	547.81
				-
	Parochial fees	935.00	4097.00	3162.00
1004	Charity	447.62	77.00	370.62
	Holiday Club	1087.53	50.00	1037.53
	sundry	1798.19	25.00	1773.19
		<b>70766.5</b>	<b>47432.4</b>	<b>23334.1</b>
	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>
	<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-312.54</b>	<b>4531.71</b>	

### **Bank Reconciliation**

		Total	Current	Savings
Balance at	01/01/2024	70697.0	70697.0	
		0	0	0
Surplus / Deficit for year		-312.54		
Presented cheques from	2023	0.00		
Minor Projects Surp/Def		0.00		
Coffee Fund Surp/Def		0.00		
Rest fund (current) Surp/Def		0.00		
Unpresented cheques from	2024	0.00		
		<b>70384.4</b>	<b>70384.4</b>	
<b>Balance at</b>	<b>31/12/24</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Minor Projects monies		1377.00		
Coffee fund monies		2675.00		
		10134.0		
Restoration Fund monies		0		
Youth worker monies retained		0.00		
		<b>56198.4</b>		
<b>Funds at year end in parish general account</b>		<b>6</b>		

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Year	2024
Year start	1/1/2021
Year End	12/31/2021

	Item	301	101	102	104	105	105	402	402	403	203a	404	404	404	203b	Monies	Minor		Sundry		CBF	Youth	St				Row	
Date		Bank Interest	Parish (Cov)	Parish (Tax)	Parish (Loose)	Donations	st Johns bells	(Building Rental)	Mast Rental	magazine	fairs & events	Weddings	Funerals	Baptism	Charity	for Churchyard	Projects Fund	HST		insurance	investments	worker	Johns Rest	Clergy Expenses	Register Fees	Int Trans	Cash removed	total
TOTALS		0.00	13235.21	4654.75	3618.00	2925.55	0.00	0.00	10993.10	169.00	4799.01	700.00	9014.00	100.00	304.56	160.00	0.00	16414.83	930.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2436.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	70454.05
	1-Jan Parish		455.00																									455.00
	3-Jan Parish		70.00		103.10																							173.10
	4-Jan Christingle														304.56													304.56
	5-Jan B Higham Legacy					2000.00																						2000.00
	9-Jan HMRC			2388.65																								2388.65
	9-Jan Cellnex								877.40																			877.40
	22-Jan Parish		218.00		39.41	52.00																						309.41
	24-Jan Parish		343.00		71.25							100.00	240.00															754.25
	30-Jan Parish		120.50		50.52																							171.02
	1-Feb Parish		435.00																									435.00
	7-Feb Parish		125.00		27.01					77.00			984.00															1213.01
	13-Feb Parish		123.40		71.30																							194.70
	1-Mar Parish		915.00																									915.00
	7-Mar Cellnex								2477.25																			2477.25
	7-Mar Parish		388.00		27.80																							415.80
	7-Mar Parish		298.00		143.48								192.00			80.00												713.48
	8-Mar Memories Memorials					35.00																						35.00
	12-Mar Parish		87.50		42.00	5.00																						134.50
	19-Mar Parish		124.50		27.50						50.00																	202.00
	26-Mar Parish		196.30		46.00	12.70							589.00															844.00
	1-Apr Parish		455.00																									455.00
	2-Apr Parish		239.90		84.05					52.00									125.00									500.95
	29-Apr Parish		94.76		22.72																							117.48
	29-Apr Parish		77.50		40.67								724.00															842.17
	30-Apr Parish		87.50		113.74																							201.24
	30-Apr Parish		171.00		82.10																							253.10
	1-May Parish		435.00																									435.00
	1-May HMRC			2266.10																								2266.10
	7-May Parish		288.50		51.32																							339.82
	15-May Parish		83.67		126.80																							210.47
	23-May Parish		147.00		58.70														320.00									525.70
	29-May Tower UK								840.74																			840.74
	30-May Parish		126.50		184.60								256.00															567.10
	1-Jun Parish		415.00																									415.00
	7-Jun Cellnex								1609.91																			1609.91
	10-Jun Parish		164.00		96.15								242.00			80.00												582.15
	13-Jun Parish		175.00		73.63	22.00					2142.10		724.00															3136.73
	19-Jun Parish		161.00		180.19	152.85							391.00															885.04
	1-Jul Parish		455.00																									455.00
	10-Jul Parish		340.00		59.20					20.00		600.00																1019.20
	17-Jul Parish		268.00		109.38																							377.38
	24-Jul Parish		131.00		30.34	90.00							391.00															642.34
	30-Jul Tower UK								855.98																			855.98
	31-Jul Parish		127.50		48.40																							175.90
	1-Aug Parish		435.00																									435.00
	7-Aug Parish		148.70		147.53	282.00							634.00															1212.23
	28-Aug Parish		237.13		40.00	4.00																						281.13
	1-Sep Parish		435.00																									435.00
	4-Sep Parish		70.35		55.80																							126.15
	9-Sep Cellnex								1609.91																			1609.91
	12-Sep Parish		42.50		124.74								302.00															469.24
	19-Sep Parish		315.50		76.95								724.00						485.00									1601.45
	25-Sep Parish		258.50		12.90	170.00																						441.40
	1-Oct Parish		435.00																									435.00
	10-Oct Parish		127.50		129.18								512.00	100.00														868.68
	17-Oct Parish		120.00		89.84																							209.84
	23-Oct Parish		155.00		92.78																							247.78
	30-Oct Tower UK								1112.00																			1112.00
	30-Oct Parish		271.00		38.30						890.00		1125.00															2324.30
	1-Nov Parish		415.00																									415.00
	14-Nov Parish		109.50		57.08	20.00																						186.58
	14-Nov Parish		262.50		69.17	20.00				20.00			492.00															863.67
	20-Nov Parish		97.50		117.51	20.00																						235.01
	27-Nov Parish		79.50		213.30								492.00															784.80
	1-Dec Parish		455.00																									455.00
	4-Dec Parish		216.00		70.94	40.00																						326.94
	4-Dec Parish																	16414.83										16414.83
	9-Dec Cellnex								1609.91																			1609.91
	16-Dec Parish		20.00		216.92						1679.91																	1916.83
	16-Dec Parish																							1232.89				1232.89
	18-Dec Parish		187.00		53.70																			1203.15				1443.85
	23-Dec Parish										37.00																	37.00
	Parish																											
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[illegible]



## 2024 Farnworth and Kearsley Parish Accounts

[illegible]

[illegible]

### Savings account

[illegible][illegible]





## 2024 Farnworth and Kearsley Parish Accounts

### Balance

		Bank Total	Barclays Current	Barclays Savings
Opening Balance	70696.81	70696.81	70697	0
Total Income	£70,454.05			
Total Outgoings	£70,766.59			
Prec. Year cheques paid	£0.00			
Unpaid cheques	£0.00			
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>£70,384.27</b>	<b>70384.27</b>	<b>70696.81</b>	<b>0</b>

£0.00 This cell should always equal zero

### Monthly reporting items

	Balance	opening	Income	Outgoings	
Parish General	£56,198	£41,510.81	£70,454.05	£70,766.59	-£14,687.46
Coffee Fund	£2,675	£2,675.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Minor Projects	£1,377	£1,377.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
St Johns reserve	£10,134	£10,134.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Youth Worker fund	£0	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
HST (In HST A/C)	£5,656	£5,656.33	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Quota Paid	30,000				

**Parish of Farnworth and Kearsley**  
**2024 Statement of Account end of jul 20**

<u>Income</u>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	variance
101 & 103 Parish regular giving	13235.21	16484.42	-3249.21
104 Parish loose cash	3618.00	2351.71	1266.29
102 Reclaimed Tax	4654.75	5238.89	-584.14
105 Donations	2925.55	3894.00	-968.45
105 Bells	0.00	92.00	-92.00
203a Fairs and events	4799.01	478.90	4320.11
203b Charity **	304.56	5.00	299.56
402 Building rental (+Mast)	10993.10	10022.54	970.56
403 Magazine	169.00	208.00	-39.00
404 Weddings	700.00	506.00	194.00
404 Funerals	9014.00	5182.60	3831.40
404 Baptisms	100.00	0.00	100.00
monies for churchyard	160.00	140.00	20.00
coffee fund	16414.83	298.10	16116.73
internal transfer			0.00
Register Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00
insurance claim	0.00	0.00	0.00
CBF investment fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sundry	930.00	88.89	841.11
Youth worker	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clergy Expenses	2436.04	6973.08	-4537.04
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>70454.05</b>	<b>51964.13</b>	<b>18489.92</b>
 <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
2001 Quota	30000.00	19849.93	10150.07
2002 Clergy Stationary and Post	71.44	0.00	71.44
2002 Travel Expenses	0.00	972.24	-972.24
2002 Telephones	280.00	1112.15	-832.15
2003 Parsonages General	0.00	1610.62	-1610.62
2003 Council Tax	3053.71	3752.56	-698.85
2005 Heat & light & Ins St Johns	28473.27	11442.82	17030.45
2006 Maintenance	2896.90	2749.91	146.99
2007 Service Requisites	659.39	797.46	-138.07
2008 Churchyard	0.00	290.00	-290.00
2016 Organists	0.00	90.00	-90.00
2016 Vergers	0.00	0.00	0.00
4000 Printer Stationary	1063.54	515.73	547.81
Parochial fees	935.00	4097.00	-3162.00
1004 Charity	447.62	77.00	370.62
Holiday Club	1087.53	50.00	1037.53
sundry	1798.19	25.00	1773.19
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>70766.59</b>	<b>47432.42</b>	<b>23334.17</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-312.54</b>	<b>4531.71</b>	

## **Bank Reconciliation**

	Total	Current	Savings
Balance at 1/1/2021	70697.00	70697.00	0
Surplus / Deficit for year	-312.54		
Presented cheques from 2023	0.00		
Minor Projects Surp/Def	0.00		
Coffee Fund Surp/Def	0.00		
Rest fund (current) Surp/Def	0.00		
Unpresented cheques from 2024	0.00		
<b>Balance at 31/12/21</b>	<b>70384.46</b>	<b>70384.46</b>	<b>0.00</b>
	<b>Error</b>	<b>312.35</b>	
Minor Projects monies	1377.00		
Coffee fund monies	2675.00		
Restoration Fund monies	10134.00		
Youth worker monies retained	0.00		
<b>Funds at year end in parish general account</b>	<b>56198.46</b>		

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**Minor Projects Fund****2024      Year End Statement of Account**

<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2020</b>
Fundraising	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
 <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
Fill in	0.00	
	0.00	
	0.00	
	0.00	
Total Expenditure	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>
Surplus/Deficit for Year	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

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**Bank Reconciliation**

Balance at      1/1/2021	1377
Surplus / Deficit for year	0.00
<b>Balance at    12/31/2021</b>	<b>1377.00</b>

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## **Coffee Fund**

### **2024      Year End Statement of Account**

#### **Income** **2024**

income recorded in main accounts 0

**Total Income** **0**

#### **Expenditure**

Fill in

Total Expenditure **0.00** **0.00**

Surplus/Deficit for Year **0.00** 0.00

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#### **Bank Reconciliation**

Balance at 1/1/2021 2675

Surplus / Deficit for year 0.00

**Balance at 12/31/2021** **2675.00**

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**St Johns Reserve Fund**  
**2024      Year End Statement of Account**

<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b>2024</b>	2023
Fundraising	0.00	
Interest/investments	0.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
	0.00	
	0.00	
Total Expenditure	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>
Surplus/Deficit for Year	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

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**Bank Reconciliation**

Balance at      1/1/2021	10134		
Surplus / Deficit for year	0.00		
		Current	Savings
<b>Balance at    12/31/2021</b>	<b>10134.00</b>	<b>10134.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

# **Parish of East Farnworth and Kearsley - Holland's School Trust** **42735    Year End Statement of Account**

## **Income**

Fill in	0.00
	0.00
	0.00
Total Income	0.00

## **Expenditure**

Fill In	0.00
	0.00
	0.00

## **Bank Reconciliation**

	HST	Parish Account
Balance at      1/1/2021	£5,656.33	0
Surplus for year	0.00	

<b>Balance at    12/31/2021</b>	<b>5656.33</b>
Current AC	£5,656.33
Savings AC	0.00
Parish AC	0.00

**2024 Farnworth and Kearsley Parish Accounts**

## HST account

## Income

[illegible]

Expenditure

[illegible]



## **Income**

Weekly sheet for 16/6/24 is in pack, banked on 19/6/24.

## **Expenditure**

Ecc Ins payment for £56 no document (that I can see in Ecc docs).

Chq (10695) for £41.30 payable to St James school not been cashed?  
It is on expenditure sheet but there is no invoice. Wrote on 28/7/24.

If possible, can you please put Chq numbers alongside payee (use another column in necessary, this would assist Diocese & HMRC if needed).

As St James School are slow cashing cheques, I would recommend using electronic banking, so payments are instant and you're not having cheques not cashed at year end by others so not on expenditure sheet etc.

**Nice to see NO payments made from Sunday collections yet again.**