

SUNDAY 23RD MAY 2021

# ST COLUMBA'S FAMILIES NEWSLETTER



Hi Families of St Columba's,

This Sunday (23rd May) is Pentecost Sunday. It is the birthday of the Church. How come? Because it is the Sunday, fifty days after Easter, when we tell the story of the Spirit of God (the Holy Spirit) coming to the disciples gathered in Jerusalem. This is ten days after the story of Jesus ascending into heaven/returning to God the Father. The arrival of the Holy Spirit in the Pentecost story is very dramatic – the rushing sound of a hurricane and the sight of flames. These signs/symbols are ways of describing the life and energy that God's spirit gives to those who are open, in sometimes surprising ways.



The flames of Pentecost make me think of the lighting and passing on of the Olympic flame, in the months before the Games and the Paralympics. The Tokyo Olympics is just one of the sporting events we can look forward to in the next few months. It is nine years since the London Olympics – it was a great time to be part of this bustling city. The photos below tell something of the Olympic torch journey throughout Britain, back then.



Torchbearer 001 Ben Ainslie holds the Olympic torch and waves to the crowd before he begins the first leg between Land's End and Sennen.



School children help the Torch Bearer re-create the scene from the Olympics movie Chariots of Fire on the beach at St Andrews in Scotland.



Torch bearer on the London eye.



Ade Adepitan on the Millenium Bridge

There is something wonderful in the act of carrying and passing, involving so many different people in the spirit of that amazing sports event. As followers of Jesus, we too have a precious flame to carry and pass on.

Thanks again to Roddy and Lesley for organising a very happy Sunday School gathering last week. It was a real pleasure to have some of our families back with us, bringing vitality and fun into our building once again. Reminder that the next Sunday School Sunday will be on Sunday 27th June. If you would like to book a place, please contact the Church Office. It is also hoped that there will be a congregational picnic following Morning Service, so please hold the date and keep an eye out for further details.

Once again thank you to Fiona for providing activities for this weekend.

See you Sunday,

Angus & the Sunday School Team