



Holy Trinity Church and Leverstock Green CE Primary School

October 2024

St. Francis

Today's Woodland Worship – the first of the new academic year – was about *ST.FRANCIS*, and how we might best honour his saint day of 4th October.

Class 6 listened attentively to details of his life and learnt that Francis was born in 1182 in Assisi, Italy, into a wealthy family. He lived a life of luxury until the significant day he cared for a sick man by the roadside and then started attending church **every day!**

As he prayed in a chapel, he heard a voice say, 'Repair my church.' Thinking that God was telling him to repair the chapel where he was praying, Francis used his father's money to rebuild it.

His father was very angry and had his son arrested for stealing. St Francis returned all the money. He even stripped off all the clothes he was wearing and gave them back to his father! A Bishop quickly covered him with an old tunic and it is said that Francis continued to wear this tunic for the rest of his life.

From then on Francis lived in poverty. He realised that when God asked him to 'Repair his church', he meant the church around the world – not the buildings, but the people in them, everywhere! Listening to God, Francis worked to make the church better by speaking up for the poor and looking after them.

Francis is also known for his love of animals and nature, and he is now recognised as the patron saint of animals and the environment.

Class 6 did their best to follow St Francis' example by doing the three things that he thought were so important. They



- worshipped and honoured God by tidying our Woodland Worship area
- looked after some of our creatures – the wild birds – by making some bird feeders
- looked after the environment by planting some Spring-flowering bulbs

