

# The Commonwealth Choir and Catholic Social Teaching

On the evening of Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026, pupils from St Edward's were delighted to perform at the Charlton Club in Mayfair (London) as part of the Commonwealth Choir. Our children were invited to attend the launch of the **'Pupil Parliament' in honour of the late Sir David Amess**. The Carlton Club were very impressed with our children and informed us that it was the **first time that children had been invited in since its establishment 150 years ago**.

In the Bible Jesus says,

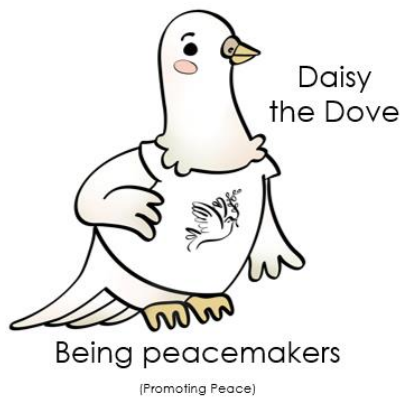
**"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these"**

**(Matthew 19:14).**

As part of the children's Catholic Social Teaching, they understand that Patariki represents **'Participation'** and that the core principles are:

- **The Right and Duty:** Patariki teaches that everyone has both the right and the responsibility to fully participate in society and their local community. St Edward's pupils joined a community that previously excluded children.
- **Inclusion:** The mascot reminds children to make sure no one is left out, enabling all people to share their unique voices and gifts. Our pupils used their singing voices as an instrument of peace.
- **Valuing All Work:** It highlights that every individual's contribution and work is a vital piece of building up a supportive community.





Our pupils understand that Daisy the Dove represents 'Being Peacemakers' and that the core principles are:

- **Active Peace-making:** Peace is not just the absence of war, but a daily action rooted in love, understanding, and justice. Our Commonwealth choir and our St Edward's Pupil Parliament team are both united as part of a bigger Newham Pupil Parliament honouring Sir David Amess who died as a result of terrorism.
- **Daily Kindness:** Our Commonwealth Choir sing beautiful songs/hymns and speak kind words to build up the self-esteem of those around them.
- **Conflict Resolution:** Teaches children how to handle arguments through a spirit of love, forgiveness, and welcoming others.

- **Perseverance:** Reminds children that working for a peaceful world can be challenging, but they must never give up, hence their on-going involvement in this project.