

## **7<sup>th</sup> July: Look afresh**

A couple of weeks ago I was in London with a group of year 6 children. It was a great trip seeing the Houses of Parliament, riding the London Eye, standing outside number 10 Downing street and then like hundreds of thousands of people walking up the Mall to Buckingham Palace. In all that the children were excited not only by that history but the fact London had McDonalds, something they know from their own town. It was a wow factor for some that it exists outside Bolton.

It reminded me of something, so often we take things for granted, we get so used to things we don't see them in their full beauty. I am used to London have been often and indeed lived on the outskirts for a year. But taking the children, watching their reactions to what we take so much for granted brought it home. Sometimes we need to stop and look afresh with new eyes. Sometimes in life we need the Green Cross Code, stop, look, listen, and see things anew. Life is full of wonderful people events, and buildings, let's today look afresh at them and truly savour the gifts around us

This is Fr Francis Parkinson, from the Catholic parishes of St Brendan, St Columba and St John, Bolton