

All the pupils, staff and Governors from the Archbishop of York CE Junior School, Bishopthorpe really celebrated the Platinum Jubilee in style today in the grounds of Bishopthorpe Palace. The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, joined them for a special service to commemorate Her Majesty The Queen's 70 years on the throne. The service was led by Archbishop Stephen alongside Mr Dave Godfrey and the Revd Simon Bray.



Following the service, everyone shared a Royal picnic lunch together on the lawn, then joined in games and activities with their classes and teachers. The afternoon finished with a rousing rendition of the National Anthem and the waving of Union flags before everyone returned to school.

Sally Sutton, Acting Headteacher said, "We couldn't let this once in a lifetime event pass by without celebrating in a special way! Being able to walk down the road from school, to host our special Platinum Jubilee event at the Archbishop's Palace, means that our celebrations have been even more memorable for the children and staff alike. We are very grateful to Archbishop Stephen and all the staff at the Palace for their excellent hospitality. We've had such a wonderful time!"

Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York said, "It's been wonderful to join the school today as we celebrate and give thanks for all that Her Majesty The Queen has done for our nation. She has been an outstanding example of someone who has dedicated her life to serve others and we recognise that her faith in Jesus Christ has been the bedrock of this."

Abbie Smith, a Year 6 pupil said, "Today was a very exciting day and will be something that I will treasure."

The Revd Simon Bray, Priest in Charge of St Andrew's Church in the village said, "It's been so good to see the children enjoying the beautiful grounds of the Palace and to join together to worship as a village community here. It's been a truly joyful occasion and a great celebration!"

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