



St John's Catholic Primary School

Religious Education Newsletter – Autumn 1 2023



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new academic year!

We will be celebrating the following Religious events in school. You are very welcome to join us.

Thursday 14 th September	New School Year Liturgy, 9.10am
Thursday 12 th October	Harvest Liturgy, 9.10am



SEASON OF CREATION

In school, we are currently focusing on the Season of Creation. Each class will celebrate Creation and learn how to look after our wonderful world. Each class are producing some art work and writing prayers on this theme.

The splendour of your creation

Loving Creator God,
 We gaze in wonder
 At the splendour of your creation.
 Rich carpeted fields of yellowing grain
 And overflowing baskets of ripe fruit.
 A banquet of fine wines and rich food,
 A feast spread out for all to share.
 Help us to learn from your generosity
 How to share our bread with the hungry
 And to commit ourselves to preparing
 A banquet for all peoples,
 A generous feast for all to share.

Amen.

Written by Linda Jones

cafod.org.uk/pray



In October, we will celebrate Harvest and also think of those less fortunate than ourselves, both in our locality and around the world. We will collect for the local Food Bank and also for CAFOD Harvest Fast day. Both very worthy causes. More information to follow.



Important Saint days this half term:

"The Saints were not Superhuman. They were people who loved God in their hearts, and who shared this joy with others."

Pope Francis

21 st September	St Matthew, apostle
27 th September	St Vincent de Paul
2 nd October	Guardian Angels
4 th October	St Francis of Assisi
7 th October	Our Lady of the Rosary
9 th October	Blessed John Henry Newman
18 th October	St Luke the Evangelist

Below you will find information about what your children will be learning in their Religious Education this half term.

	Topic	Learning at home
Reception <i>St Werburgh</i>	God's World This half term, the children in the Nursery and the Reception classes will be learning about God's world. Throughout this topic, the children will begin to appreciate the beauty of the world and know that God made it. They will learn that God loves and cares for each one of us and reflect on this. They will hear about and respond to the things God created for us. They will know that God has asked us to care for the world and think of ways in which we can help to do it.	Look at pictures of animals and plants and talking about how special creation is. Encourage your child to notice different parts of God's wonderful creation and think of ways to care for the world
Year 1 <i>St Francis of Assisi</i>	God's Great Plan The children will learn about the beauty of God's world and explore and respond to the wonders of creation e.g. the seasons. They will also hear about the story of Creation from Genesis and talk about its meaning. They will be reflecting on the knowledge that God made us because he loves us and develop their understanding that we show God we love him by looking after the world and each other. They will learn that we can spoil God's creation and that we have a responsibility to look after it, as well as hearing an appropriate part of the story of Noah and the Flood and its message of salvation and hope.	Talk about how we can look after the world, e.g. recycling, not dropping litter, conserving energy and how we can care for plants and animals. Look at the trees during the Autumn season and talk about the different colours. You could collect leaves to make a collage or painting.
Year 2 <i>St Benedict the More</i>	The Chosen People The children will learn that we are chosen by God and learn that God chose certain people to lead and guide his people. They will learn that God called Abraham and that God chose Moses to be a great leader. They will also learn about how Samuel responded to God's call and find out about the story of Daniel in the lions' den. They will have an opportunity to reflect on Abraham's trust in God and learn that we should always trust God. They will learn that God chooses unexpected people and will be given the opportunity to reflect on their own response to God's call.	Talk about times when they have needed to trust somebody else. Discuss how they can respond to God's call. Read some of the stories the children have covered in class
Year 3 <i>St Winefride</i>	The Christian Family The children will develop their understanding that the Church is the family of God and know that we join this family when we receive the Sacrament of Baptism. They will learn what happens at Baptism and learn about the signs used and why they are used. They will learn about the promises made by parents and godparents at Baptism and develop their understanding of the Sacrament of Baptism.	Share your experiences about their Baptism. Look at any gifts or photographs that they received on their special day. Discuss what it means to be part of God's family.
Year 4	The Bible	Read some of the

<p><i>St Catherine of Siena</i></p>	<p>The children will learn that the Bible is a story of God's love and concern for us. They will learn that the Bible is a living book through which God speaks to us and tells us about himself. They will learn that the Bible is one story told through many different books and they will learn about Moses, David and Jonah as well as learning how to find a Bible reference.</p> <p>The children will have the chance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explore how the Bible helps us to pray and experience how God speaks to us in the Bible • participate in a liturgy and experience a guided meditation on a text from the Bible 	<p>stories the children have covered in class.</p>
<p>Year 5 <i>St Thomas More</i></p>	<p>Gifts from God</p> <p>The children will learn the story of Creation and the Fall in the Book of Genesis. They will learn that we are all created in the image and likeness of God and know that God calls us to care for others and all creation with love and respect. They will learn that there are times when we fail to be good stewards of creation. They will also learn that there are people who show great respect for creation and for the weakest members of society.</p> <p>The children will have the chance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appreciate how we can show respect for ourselves, for others and for God. • reflect on times we have failed to show respect and reflect on the gifts and talents God has given each of us. • reflect on the use and misuse we can make of these gifts. 	<p>Talk to your child about how they could care for creation and the environment.</p>
<p>Year 6 <i>St Vincent de Paul</i></p>	<p>The Kingdom of God</p> <p>The children will learn about the beginning of Jesus' public life and that he was tempted by the devil. They will know about the conditions for following Jesus and know that Jesus performs mighty works, wonders and signs.</p> <p>They will learn that through his parables Jesus invites people into the Kingdom of God. They will develop an understanding that deeds, and not just words, are required by Jesus, through the example of the Parable of the two sons.</p> <p>They will learn why Jesus chose to eat with sinners, learn that we must make use of our talents to gain the Kingdom and develop an understanding that God has boundless love and mercy.</p>	<p>Talk to your child about their talents and how they can use them to help others.</p>

Thank you for your support.