

R.E. NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

God Matters

This term your child(ren) will be studying Prayers Saints and Feasts in Religious Education:

RECEPTION



During this unit your child will be exploring family relationships and how we show love to one another by the way we act. They will also hear how Jesus was part of a family and how Mary cared for him. They will make links with how Jesus cared for people and God cares for us and others and the signs of his love. They will also consider how we pray to Mary. They will also be introduced to the concept of Disciples and how they became his friends.

The multi-faith element identifies Islam as a religion.

Help at Home

- **Talk about your family and how you show each other how you care for one another. Talk about Jesus' family and how they would have shown love to one another-what is the same. Model the Hail Mary for your child and look at pictures of Mary.**

Year 3

In this unit the children will explore peace and forgiveness and how they are linked. They will explore how Jesus modelled this and develop further their knowledge of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They will look in detail at how at what Jesus taught about forgiveness in the story of Zacchaeus. They will also focus on St Francis of Assisi and his use of prayer. A link with other faiths will be made through looking at the role of Mohammed as the last prophet.

Help at Home

- **Look up where Assisi is and talk about what life here might have been like.**
- **Look up the prayer of St Francis of Assisi and just focus on the first part.**



Year 1

This unit is designed to develop children's understanding of prayer. It will introduce them to different kinds of prayer including the psalms. Children will also develop an understanding of why the Church has saints. They will begin to appreciate that saints provide an example of faith and allow us to use this example to further our relationship with God. Pupils will begin to understand that we follow a liturgical cycle and that we focus on different prayers during this cycle i.e. October is the month of Mary and November prayers for the dead. The unit makes links with Islam and how they use routines of prayer

Help at Home

- **Choose one Saint to look at and learn about.**
- **Revisit the Hail Mary and say together with your child**
- **Sensitively say a prayer for those close to them who may have died or link it with those who have died because of war etc and Remembrance Day.**



Year 2

This unit is designed to extend the children's knowledge and understanding of the life of Mary and Jesus. They will be introduced to the Rosary. They will learn about how we are called to respond to Jesus and about some saints who responded to the call of Jesus.

They will learn that other faiths have special times of prayer during the year. For Muslims a special time is Ramadan.

Help at Home

- **Look at a set of Rosary Beads and discuss how they are designed and follow a pattern. Discuss how and why they help some people to pray.**
- **Ask the question if they had been one of the saints would they have followed Jesus – do they follow him now?**





Year 4

During this unit children will learn about the prayer life of Jesus as he grew up in the Jewish faith. They will be introduced to some prayers of the Old Testament and reflect on the importance that Jesus attached to prayer and how he taught his followers to pray including the Our Father and the meaning behind it. They will also learn how prayer can aid them in their own life,

Children will also reflect on the importance of prayers to Mary in the life of the Church and research the history of the Rosary.

Children will make links between the Catholic use of prayer and those in the Islamic faith and other religions.

Help at Home

- Spend time saying the Our Father and discussing the meaning of the phrases.
- Explore the different prayers we say to Mary i.e. Hail Holy Queen, Hail Mary.
- Look up what a temple would have looked liked in Jerusalem during Jesus' time,

Year 5

Children will focus on and explore the prayer of St Teresa of Avila and place it in the context of life today and how we are to carry on the work of the church. They will build on the concept of prayer and the idea of undertaking a pilgrimage and look at the places where these occur. Links will be made with the Muslims pilgrimage to Mecca.

They will build on their knowledge of the sacraments and look at the Sacrament of the anointing of the sick making links to the miracles of healing Jesus did.

The concept of the church being a group of people and not a building will also be developed.

Help at Home.

- Research places of pilgrimage i.e. Lourdes Walshingham.
- Read and discuss Jesus' miracles of healing i.e. ten lepers, paralysed man, discuss how the healing would have changed them in terms of having a faith,



Year 6

Within this unit the children will develop their knowledge and understanding of the feasts associated with Mary and their place in the liturgical calendar. They will also explore Mary's relationship with Jesus and where in scripture the two are linked. They will study the Angelus and explore the concept of Heaven and Mary's place within it.

They will look in more depth at the feast of Holy souls.

Help at Home

- Look at the Angelus as a prayer and perhaps say together occasionally.
- Discuss your child's and your view of heaven.
- Look at when we honour Mary in the mass.



Feast Days

- All Saints Day 1st November
- All Souls Day 2nd November

EVENTS AND SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS