RE NEWSLETTER

ST BEDE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

AUTUMN TERM 2026

OUR AIMS

At St Bede's, we nurture our children's faith and build a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith, scripture, sacraments and promote respect for religious and moral values, and tolerance of the beliefs of others. We foster the growth of each child's potential through the development of respect for self and others. We promote an understanding and care of the environment in which each child finds him or herself and we continue to build strong and co-operative relationships between home, parish and school.

OUR CURRICULUM THIS TERM

Prophecy and Promise

This term, all children across the school will be learning about Prophecy and Promise.

- Learning about the prophets chosen by God to share His message with His people.
- Exploring how the prophets encouraged people to trust in God and remain faithful to Him.
- Learning about the promises God made to His people throughout the Old Testament.
- Understanding the hopes and expectations of the Jewish people as they awaited the coming of the Messiah.
- Discovering key prophecies that Christians believe were fulfilled in the life of Jesus.
- Reflecting on the message of Advent and how it prepares us for the celebration of Christ's birth.
- Considering how God's promises bring hope, guidance and encouragement to people today.
- Making links between Scripture, faith and everyday life.



WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON?

Nursery have started their new RE topic, Prophecy and Promise. In our first lesson, we learnt about the Angel Gabriel's special message to Mary, telling her that she would have a baby called Jesus. We also talked about how families prepare for a new baby, and the children shared some wonderful ideas such as feeding, changing and keeping a baby warm. To extend our learning, the children enjoyed caring for a baby in the home corner through imaginative role play.









Reception have begun their journey learning about Prophecy and Promise, focusing on the events leading up to the birth of Jesus. The children explored the story of the Annunciation, discovering how the Angel Gabriel visited Mary with the special news that she had been chosen by God to be the mother of Jesus. We discussed Mary's loving and courageous response and thought about how families prepare for the arrival of a new baby. The children then learned about the Nativity story, including Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus in a stable, where he was laid in a manger and visited by the Shepherds. Through storytelling, role play, discussion and creative activities, the children have developed their understanding of these important Bible stories and reflected on why Jesus' birth is such a special event for Christians.

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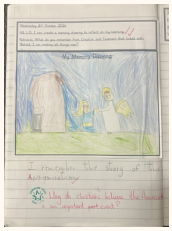
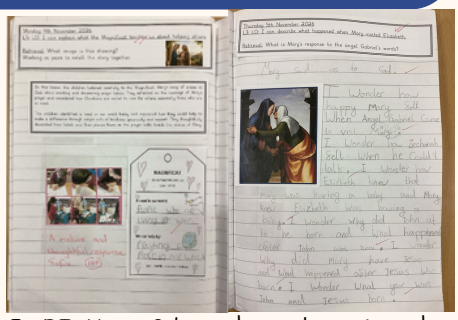


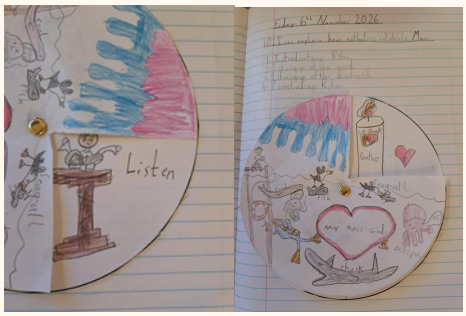
In Year 1, the children are learning about the story of Jesus' birth through St Luke's Gospel. They are exploring how God chose Mary to be Jesus' mother, the messages brought by angels, and the roles of Elizabeth and the shepherds. Through stories, prayer and creative activities, they are learning about prayers such as the Hail Mary and the Gloria, while discovering how Christians celebrate Jesus' birth and honour Mary during Advent and Christmas.

This half term, Year 1/2 are learning about the birth of Jesus through stories from St Luke's Gospel. They are exploring the roles of Mary, Elizabeth, John the Baptist and the shepherds, learning key prayers such as the Hail Mary, Gloria and Magnificat, and discovering Mary's special place in the Church. During Advent, the children will reflect on how Christians prepare for Jesus' coming and how these beliefs inspire Christian life today.





In RE, Year 2 have been learning about Prophecy and Promise. We explored the story of Mary's visit to Elizabeth and discovered how the Holy Spirit helped Elizabeth recognise that Jesus was God's special promised Son. We also learned about the Magnificat, Mary's prayer of praise, and discussed how it teaches Christians to care for people who are poor, lonely or in need. The children reflected on ways they can help others and follow Mary's example of saying "yes" to God.



During our Prophecy and Promise unit, Year 3 learned about the Mass, focusing on the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. They created colourful pinwheels to explain the different parts of the Mass and worked in groups to deliver Elevation Speeches, confidently sharing their understanding of Catholic worship.

Class 3/4 have begun their new RE topic, Prophecy and Promise. We linked our learning on Creation to the new topic through artwork and have explored the importance of the Mass, learning about its different parts and how Catholics participate in worship. Next, we will learn about Elijah and John the Baptist as we prepare for Advent.

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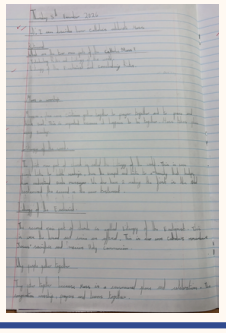

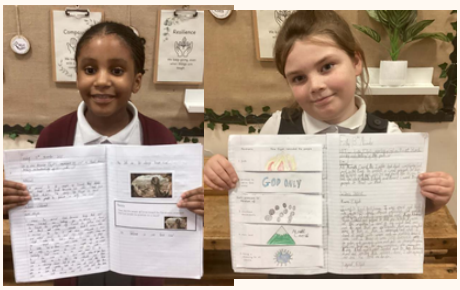

This half term, Year 4 have been exploring Prophecy and Promise, learning about Elijah and how he helped God's people remain faithful. They explored key events from his life and made links to God's promises throughout salvation history. More recently, they have compared Elijah with John the Baptist, considering how both prophets prepared people to encounter God. We have been impressed by their thoughtful responses and enthusiasm throughout the topic.

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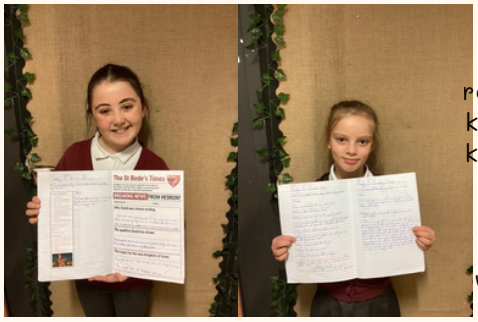
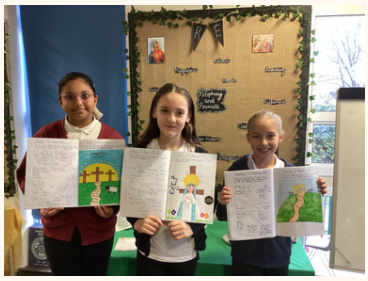
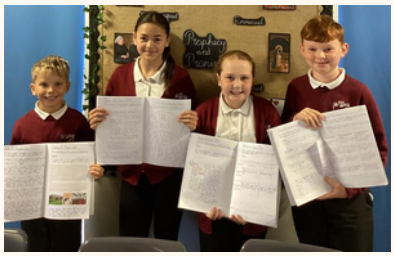


So far in Branch 2, Year 5 have explored the life of King David, questioning why God chose him to lead His people and what this reveals about God's plan. Through Scripture study, pupils investigated key events in David's life, including his anointing, victory over Goliath, kingship and God's covenant with him. As part of their learning, pupils became journalists for the St Bede's Times, writing newspaper reports on David's coronation and reporting on this significant moment in Israel's history. Through discussion, drama and written work, pupils developed their understanding of David's importance in salvation history and his role in God's covenant with His people.

Year 5/6 have made a fantastic start to their new RE branch, Prophecy and Promise. The children began by creating spider diagrams to link together their previous learning before thinking about their hopes, questions and what they would like to learn throughout this topic. They then expressed these ideas through some beautiful artwork. It has been lovely to see the effort, creativity and thoughtful reflections shown, and we are excited to continue exploring and deepening our understanding of Prophecy and Promise over the coming weeks.





This half term, Year 6 are exploring Prophecy and Promise, learning about significant women in salvation history and their role in God's plan. The children are comparing the Nativity accounts in Luke's and Matthew's Gospels, recognising Mary as a central figure in salvation history and the fulfilment of Old Testament promises. They are also learning about Vespers (Evening Prayer) and the Magnificat, and considering how Christian women today continue to respond to God's call with faith and courage.

"Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock." (Matthew 7:24)

This year, schools across Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust will explore how strong foundations help us grow in faith, character and purpose. Inspired by St Peter, whose faith helped build Christ's Church, we will journey through six "Rocks" that encourage us to live as disciples, learners and citizens. Rooted in Scripture and the Church's year, these foundations will help us stand firm in life's challenges, flourish as individuals, and serve others with Christ at the centre.



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PUPIL VOICE

We asked our children what they thought and this is what they said...



I love my RE book. I am very proud of it. I work very hard. – Millie





When my teacher marks my work, she gives me green star chlennge questions and they push me to the next level so I can do even better. – Theo

Everything we do is based on Gospel values. – Oscar







We link with the parish by going to Mass, donating to charities like the foodbank and visiting the carehome. – Eibhlinn

We are a Catholic school and so some of the things we do are different to other schools. We have a mssion statement and we try to be like Jesus. – Harlow



As always, we love to see what you are getting up to at home! Please don't hesitate to bring any work into school or send us some pictures via our office email. 📸

We thank you for your ongoing support,

Miss Howard