

St. Francis R.C. Primary School

RE Newsletter 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new academic year. Below you will find information about what your children will be learning in their Religious Education this half term.

Dates from the Church's calendar:

3 rd September	St. Gregory the Great	4 th October	St. Francis of Assisi
4 th September	St. Cuthbert	7 th October	Our Lady of the Rosary
14 th September	Exaltation of the Cross	9 th October	Blessed John Henry Newman
21 st September	St. Matthew, Apostle	10 th October	St. Paulinus of York
24 th September	Our Lady of Walsingham	11 th October	St. John XXIII, Pope
27 th September	St. Vincent de Paul	12 th October	St. Wilfrid, Diocesan patron
30 th September	St. Jerome	15 th October	St. Teresa of Avila
1 st October	St. Therese of Lisieux	17 th October	St. Ignatius of Antioch
2 nd October	Guardian Angels	18 th October	St. Luke, Evangelist

Foundation Stage- God's Wonderful World

"Creation is the first and universal revelation of God's love"

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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.

At home

You could help your children by:

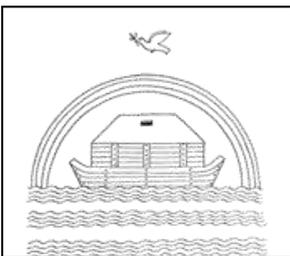
- looking at pictures of animals and plants and talking about how special creation is
- encourage them to notice different parts of God's wonderful creation and think of ways to care for the world.

Year 1 - God's Great Plan

"As the first action of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, creation is the first step towards the covenant relationship

God seeks with every human being"

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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.

At home

You could help your children by:

- talking 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 - The Chosen People

“In order to gather together scattered humanity God calls Abram ... and makes him Abraham, that is, ‘the father of a multitude of nations.’ ... God formed Israel as his people by freeing them from slavery in Egypt ... he gave them his law so that they would recognise him and serve him as the one living and true God, the provident Father and just judge, and so that they would look for the promised Saviour.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church



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.

At home:

You could help your child by:

- Talking to them about how they have been chosen by God just like Abraham, Daniel and Moses were.
- Talking together about times they have put their trust in God.
- Thinking about how they will use their special talents from God in the future.

Year 3 - The Christian Family

“The Church is the family of God, the people that God gathers in the whole world.”

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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.

The children will have a chance to:

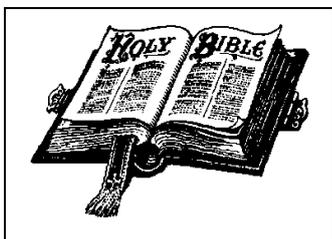
- reflect on what it means to be part of a family
- reflect on what it means to be part of the Christian family

At home

You could help your children by:

- sharing 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



“The Scriptures are the living Word of God, written under the guidance of the Holy Spirit received and faithfully handed on within the living Tradition and teaching of the Church.”

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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 Abraham, Joseph, Moses and David as well as learning how to find a Bible reference.

The children will have the chance to:

- 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

At home

You could help your children by:

- reading some of the stories the children have covered in class

Year 5 - Creation

“Each human person is unique and made in God’s image and likeness”

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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.

The children will have the chance to:

- 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.

At home

You could help your children by:

- talking to the children about how they could care for creation and the environment

Year 6 – The Kingdom of God

The children will learn about where the Kingdom of God is to be found and that to enter it they must first accept the word of Jesus. The children will learn that everyone is invited to the Kingdom, no matter who they are and much of the learning is taught through parables, which are then discussed with the children to explore the deeper meaning. Children will find that words are not enough: deeds are required. They will also learn that Jesus has compassion on all who suffer and to know about people who have helped spread the Kingdom of God.

The children will have a chance to:

- Show their understanding, through the use of drama, how values of the Kingdom can be used.
- Reflect on how we can live up to the commitment to the Kingdom.
- Reflect on what we learn from people who have helped spread the Kingdom of God.
- Think of ways we can show compassion.
- Consider ways to share this good news.

At Home

You could help your children by:

- reading and discussing some of the parables that have been covered in class
- discussing practical ways to live out the values of the Kingdom