

RE Curriculum Newsletter Summer 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

At St Peter's, all children are following the Religious Education Directory (RED) and the content "To Know You More Clearly." This term, the children are focusing on:

Year Group	Summer 1 - From the Ends of the Earth	Summer 2 – Dialogue and Encounter
EYFS	In this branch, pupils will study the events that flowed from the Resurrection and Ascension in the coming of the Holy Spirit and the work of the apostles and early Church. They will also learn about the Catholic Church today as the apostolic Church and how its liturgy and structures flow from the early Church.	In EYFS, the "Dialogue and Encounter" component of the Religious Education Directory (RED) curriculum focuses on helping children understand the concept of dialogue and the importance of engaging with others, particularly those of different faiths. It also encourages them to learn about and respect other religions and cultures, recognizing that all people work towards a common good.
Year 1	In this branch, pupils will hear the story of the Road to Emmaus, the Ascension, and the story of Pentecost. They will complete an age-appropriate narrative cycle of the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ and encounter the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Apostles and then the early Church.	This branch encourages children to learn about different faiths and cultures, promoting respect and understanding of diverse perspectives. It helps students understand the Church's commitment to dialogue with other religions and worldviews, emphasizing the importance of respecting and esteeming different cultures.
Year 2	Though the language of conversion is not age-appropriate, pupils will explore how people are changed by the Holy Spirit, through the examples of the apostles, St Paul, and other Saints that teachers feel will speak to their lives. Pupils will learn the names of the fruits of the Spirit but could reflect on how these require thinking time (praying time) as well as actions in the world.	Year 2 focuses on fostering understanding and respect for people of different faiths and backgrounds. It encourages children to engage in conversations about their own beliefs and others', emphasizing that all people share a common good and should be treated with respect. This unit helps children develop empathy, learn about different cultures and religions, and understand the importance of building relationships.
Year 3	In Branch 5, Year 3 children will begin by reflecting on the story of The Road to Emmaus and how it links to the pattern of mass today. Children will learn about the story of Jesus' ascension and the impact this had on Jesus' followers then and how this continues today. They will build an understanding that in the book of Acts, we see the Spirit of God at work in a variety of people who show us what it means to follow Christ. They will consider what we can learn from the lives of the early Christians and how we can follow their example in our lives today. Scripture to read at home: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Road to Emmaus Luke 24: 13 – 35 ● The Ascension Acts 1: 6 – 11 	The theme that runs through Year 3 is Eucharist. The children will develop an understanding of celebration of the Mass as an act of remembering and reliving the Last Supper at Mass. For Christians, Jesus offers himself as the sacrifice. He is the Paschal lamb. Pupils will make simple connections between the Last Supper, Passover, and the sharing of unleavened bread and wine at Mass and Jesus' instruction to 'Do this in memory of me'. Pupils will develop an understanding that the Passover is a festival for Jewish people across the world today, and through history.
Year 4	In Year 4, Branch 5 of our RE work provides children with an opportunity to recall and build on their knowledge of Saint Peter. Through exploration of stories such as The Shore of Lake Tiberias, children will find out what happened to Saint Peter after the resurrection and how he came to be regarded as the first leader of the Catholic Church. They will recognise that the Pope is the successor to Saint Peter and continues the work of Jesus today by fulfilling the teaching, 'feed my sheep'. In addition, they will develop an understanding of the Church as 'One, Holy and Apostolic'. Finally, children will have the opportunity to reflect on the importance of Mary by responding to different pieces of art work and finding out how May – the month of Mary – is celebrated around the world. Scripture to read at home: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Empty Tomb John 20: 1 – 10 ● The Shore of Lake Tiberias John 21: 1 – 18 	In Year 4, pupils will look at Paul's commitment to announcing the gospel to the world. Pupils will encounter a little of what he wrote and his actions. The feast of St Peter and St Paul falls during this term, allowing pupils to celebrate the importance of these two great apostles. Pupils will explore something of the universal Catholic Church and the many different communities of faith that form part of the Catholic Church. Pupils will explore different Christian communities in their locality and find out about ways Christians work together for the common good. The encounter element of the branch focuses on the five pillars of Islam.

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Year 5	<p>In Year 5, Branch 5 of our RE work provides children with an opportunity to develop an understanding of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. They will reflect on how the mystery of the Holy Trinity and the role of the Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus. They will develop their understanding of prayer and the Glorious Mysteries by recognising that the Rosary is a prayerful reflection on the life of Christ.</p> <p>In this branch, children will also have an opportunity to learn about the Sacrament of Confirmation. They will identify the religious actions and signs associated with the sacrament and will recognise the special significance of the use of the oil of chrism in marking our total belonging to Christ.</p> <p>Scripture to read at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Gifts of the Holy Spirit 1 Cor 12: 4 – 11 ● Pentecost Acts 2: 1 – 18 ● Links to Confirmation Isaiah 11: 2 – 3 	<p>In this branch, pupils will consider the Bible as a place of dialogue and encounter. Pupils will begin to understand how Christians view the Bible and the importance of the Church in helping people encounter the meaning of the text beyond what is written. The Bible as a collection of different writings gathered over time. Pupils will recognise that the texts that Christians refer to as the Old Testament are texts of the Jewish religion. Pupils will develop the understanding about being respectful to different understandings of sacred text as part of understanding intercultural dialogue. In the encounter dimension of this branch, pupils will be invited to explore more about the importance of Hebrew, the holy language for Jewish people, and understand how prayer, beliefs and sacred objects form part of Jewish life.</p>
Year 6	<p>In Year 6, Branch 5 of our RE work provides children with an opportunity to develop an understanding of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. They will reflect on how the mystery of the Holy Trinity and the role of the Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus. They will develop their understanding of prayer and the Glorious Mysteries by recognising that the Rosary is a prayerful reflection on the life of Christ.</p> <p>In this branch, children will also have an opportunity to learn about the Sacrament of Confirmation. They will identify the religious actions and signs associated with the sacrament and will recognise the special significance of the use of the oil of chrism in marking our total belonging to Christ.</p> <p>Scripture to read at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Gifts of the Holy Spirit 1 Cor 12: 4 – 11 ● Pentecost Acts 2: 1 – 18 ● Links to Confirmation Isaiah 11: 2 – 3 	<p>In Year, 6 pupils will explore ‘What does dialogue mean in action?’ The dialogue of life – what it means to be a good neighbour. The dialogue of action – how Christians and others collaborate for justice and freedom for all people. The dialogue of religious experience – how people share their spiritual riches. Pupils think about how they experience neighborliness, collaboration, and sharing spiritual riches. They also explore how charities uphold the principles of Catholic social teaching and show dialogue in action. Students also look at what is happening in their local community and consider their responsibilities alongside possibilities for participation.</p>

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Important Dates for this Term

The Ascension of the Lord	14 th May
Pentecost Sunday	24 th May
The Most Holy Trinity	31 st May
The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	12 th June
St Peter and Paul	29 th June

The month of May is dedicated to Our Lady.

Catholic Social Teaching Principles

Summer Term 1

During the first part of the Summer Term 2026, our focus principle will be Participation which is represented by Patariki the Penguin.



Taking part
Participation

Patariki the Penguin represents participation. We all have the right and duty to participate fully in society. We live in community with others, growing together. We are called to be active participants in all that we do. We have a responsibility to be inclusive so that we allow all people to participate.

Summer Term 2

During the second part of the summer term, our focus principle will be Solidarity which is represented by Shiristi the bear.

We believe in
**showing we
care**

Solidarity



Solidarity arises when we remember that we belong to each other. We reflect on this in a special way at Mass. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "The Eucharist commits us to the poor. To receive in truth the Body and Blood of Christ given up for us, we must recognise Christ in the poorest.

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