

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

ALL SAINTS

(1 November)

We celebrate the lives of special and ordinary people who have responded to God's invitation to love.

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)

(2 November)

Today and throughout the rest of November we pray for those who have died. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

(20 November)

ADVENT

(Begins 27 November)

Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing. It is only in the last week of Advent that we focus upon the events to be celebrated at Christmas.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

(8 December)

This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and co-operated with God throughout her life.

CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

(25 December)

On this day we begin our celebration of the birth of Christ.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

AUTUMN TERM 2016

COME AND SEE AT HOME

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the three themes of Domestic Church (Family), Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and Advent and Christmas (Loving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children will also spend a week studying Judaism.

DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY

(Insert dates)

Early Years	MYSELF - God knows and loves each one
Year 1	FAMILIES - God's love and care for every family
Year 2	BEGINNINGS - God is present in every beginning
Year 3	HOMES - God's vision for every family
Year 4	PEOPLE - The family of God in Scripture
Year 5	OURSELVES - Created in the image and likeness of God
Year 6	LOVING - God who never stops loving

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love.

Write underneath it
"We show God's love to one another."

Include those who have died.

JUDAISM *(Insert dates)*

Pupils will study various aspects of Judaism for one week. Ask them what they have been learning about.

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

(Insert dates)

Early Years	WELCOME - Baptism: a welcome to God's family
Year 1	BELONGING - Baptism: an invitation to belong to God's family
Year 2	SIGNS AND SYMBOLS - Signs and symbols in Baptism
Year 3	PROMISES - Promises made at Baptism
Year 4	CALLED - Confirmation: a call to witness
Year 5	LIFE CHOICES - Marriage, commitment and service
Year 6	VOCATION AND COMMITMENT - The vocation of priesthood and religious life

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

(Insert dates)

Early Years	BIRTHDAY - Looking forward to Jesus' birthday
Year 1	WAITING - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas
Year 2	PREPARATIONS - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas
Year 3	VISITORS - waiting for the coming of Jesus
Year 4	GIFT - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus
Year 5	HOPE - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one
Year 6	EXPECTATIONS - Jesus born to show God to the world

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home.

Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree.

Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SPRING TERM 2017

COME AND SEE

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the three themes of Local Church (Community), Eucharist (Relating) and Lent/Easter (Giving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics.

LOCAL CHURCH - COMMUNITY

Early Years	CELEBRATING - People celebrate in Church
Year 1	SPECIAL PEOPLE - People in the parish family
Year 2	BOOKS - The books used in Church
Year 3	JOURNEYS - Christian family's journey with Christ
Year 4	COMMUNITY - Life in the local Christian community and ministries in the parish
Year 5	MISSION - Continuing Jesus' mission in diocese (ecumenism)
Year 6	SOURCES - The Bible, the special book for the Church

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Explore the Diocesan website, looking at the number of churches, and finding out about our bishop.
Read Bible stories together or encourage older children to read a child's Bible.

EUCCHARIST - RELATING

Early Years	GATHERING - Parish family gathers to celebrate Eucharist
Year 1	MEALS - Mass, Jesus' special meal
Year 2	THANKSGIVING - Mass, a special time to thank God
Year 3	LISTENING & SHARING - Jesus gives himself to us
Year 4	GIVING & RECEIVING - Living in communion
Year 5	MEMORIAL SACRIFICE - Eucharist as the living memorial of Christ's sacrifice
Year 6	UNITY - Eucharist enabling people to live in communion

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Look through the family photograph album to help the children remember important events and special people in their lives.
Discuss how we come together for special celebrations.

LENT/EASTER - GIVING

Early Year	GROWING - Looking forward to Easter
Year 1	CHANGE - Lent: a time for change
Year 2	OPPORTUNITIES - Lent: an opportunity to start anew
Year 3	GIVING ALL - Lent: remembering Jesus' total giving
Year 4	SELF DISCIPLINE - Celebrating growth to new life
Year 5	SACRIFICE - Lent: a time of aligning with the sacrifice made by Jesus
Year 6	DEATH & NEW LIFE - Celebrating Jesus' death and resurrection

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

As a family talk about how you are going to practice self-control and self-giving for the rest of the season of Lent. You may decide to give up biscuits or cakes and donate the money to a charity. If you have an older child provide him/her with an opportunity to take part in The Stations of the Cross. Ask your child/ren how the school is focusing on Lent and self-giving.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SUMMER TERM 2017 COME AND SEE AT HOME

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

As we return to school after Easter the Church is still celebrating this great event. The focus of this term's work in Religious Education is the role the Holy Spirit plays in our lives. We will be studying the three themes of Pentecost (Serving), Reconciliation (Inter-relating) and Universal Church (World). The children will also spend one week studying Islam.

PENTECOST—SERVING (18th April – 19th May)

Early Years	GOOD NEWS - Passing on the Good News of Jesus
Year 1	HOLIDAYS AND HOLYDAYS - Pentecost: feast of the Holy Spirit
Year 2	SPREAD THE WORD - Pentecost: a time to spread the Good News
Year 3	ENERGY - Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Year 4	NEW LIFE - To hear and live the Easter message
Year 5	TRANSFORMATION - Celebration of the Spirit's transforming power
Year 6	WITNESSES - The Holy Spirit enables people to become witnesses

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk about good news in your family and how you shared it. Ask your child to tell you the story of Pentecost and the work of the Holy Spirit.

RECONCILIATION—INTER-RELATING (22nd May – 23rd June)

Early Years	FRIENDS - Friends of Jesus
Year 1	BEING SORRY - God helps us choose well
Year 2	RULES - Reasons for rules in the Christian family
Year 3	CHOICES - Importance of examination of conscience
Year 4	BUILDING BRIDGES - Admitting wrong, being reconciled with God and each other
Year 5	FREEDOM & RESPONSIBILITY - Commandments enable Christians to be free & responsible
Year 6	HEALING - Sacrament of the Sick

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk together about times when you have forgiven and been forgiven. Discuss the importance of saying sorry. Look for opportunities for forgiveness and reconciliation in the day to day life of the family.

ISLAM (26th June – 30th June)

Pupils will study various aspects of Islam for one week. Ask them what they have been learning about.

UNIVERSAL CHURCH—WORLD (July)

Early Years	OUR WORLD - God's wonderful world
Year 1	NEIGHBOURS - Neighbours share God's world
Year 2	TREASURES - God's treasure; the world
Year 3	SPECIAL PLACES - Holy places for Jesus and the Christian community
Year 4	GOD'S PEOPLE - Different saints show people what God is like
Year 5	STEWARDSHIP - The Church is called to the stewardship of Creation
Year 6	COMMON GOOD - Work of the worldwide Christian family

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Together, look through a family scrapbook or photograph album of a visit to a place that is special for your family. Look at a globe or an atlas. Find a special place and pray for the people of that country. Discuss how we can look after our world and support our neighbours, near and far.

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

The month of May is dedicated to Our Lady

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

(28 May)

After his Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples over a period of forty days. Ascension Day is when we celebrate Jesus' return to his Father in Heaven.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

(4 June)

This is the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church.

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

(11 June)

Today we celebrate our belief in the Trinity, the three persons of God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

(18 June)

On this feast we give thanks to God for the gift of Jesus in the form of bread and wine.

THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

(23 June)

On this day we remember how much Jesus loves us all.

SS. PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

(29 June)

We celebrate the lives of these important saints who helped establish the Christian Church.