



R.E. NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

Autumn 2019

This term your child(ren) will be studying five topics in Religious Education. The topics covered will depend on the year group however the overall themes are Family (Domestic Church), Belonging (Baptism/Confirmation), Harvest, Judaism and Loving (Advent/Christmas).

Family ~ Domestic Church

In this topic your child(ren) will be able to develop their relationship with God as a loving parent. They will have the opportunity to explore the importance of family in our lives and discuss how every family is different but special.

At home it would be helpful to talk about your family and discuss the importance of showing love to one another. As the family is the first place where children hear about God, it would be perfect opportunity to spend some time praying as a family.



Belonging ~ Baptism/Confirmation

In this topic your child(ren) will explore the fact that our lives are marked by many different experiences of being welcomed into new situations and groups. They will come to see Baptism as an invitation to belong to the Church family. They will look at stories from scripture where people have answered God's invitation. Older children will learn about Confirmation.

At home you might talk about what we do when we receive an invitation. You may be able to find photos or souvenirs of your child(ren)'s Baptism. When you go to church, look together at the font. Talk about how every day we respond to Jesus's invitation to be his friends by the way we act.



Other Faiths ~ Judaism

During this term, depending upon the age of your child(ren), they will be spending a week learning about how Jewish families live and worship. The children will be encouraged to appreciate the shared heritage of the Jewish and Christian religions and to respect the differences between the two religions.



Harvest

Your child(ren) will learn about ways in which 'love of a neighbour' can be shown globally, as well as at home, at church and locally. They will explore issues of food and hunger and help CAFOD share the harvest with people living in poverty.



Special times this term

- September is the month of Our Lady of Sorrows
- 8th September Birthday of Mary
- October the month of the Rosary
- 4th October CAFOD family fast day
- November the month of the Holy Souls
- 1st November All Saints
- 2nd November All Souls
- 11th November Remembrance Sunday
- 24th November Christ the King
- 1st December beginning of Advent
- 8th December Immaculate Conception

Loving ~ Advent/Christmas

Your child(ren) will learn about Advent and Christmas. For Christians the birth of Jesus changed the world forever and was a great sign of the love that God has for us. Your child(ren) will learn how we prepare for Jesus's birthday through the four weeks of Advent and will learn about the story of Christmas.

At home buy or make an Advent calendar which shows the true story of Christmas. You might make an Advent wreath with a ring of greenery and four candles, lighting one for each week of Advent as you say a prayer together looking forward to Jesus coming at Christmas. You might make a crib out of a shoe box to put the nativity figures in.

