

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

RE Newsletter 5

SUMMER TERM 1

Dear Parents,

As we return to school the Church is celebrating the great feast of Easter – Jesus risen from the dead. This celebration goes on until the solemnity of Pentecost (Sunday 4th June), the birthday of the Church. At Pentecost we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit who empowers and enables us to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. The half term ends just before the Ascension. During this half-term the Church dedicates the month of May to Mary, Jesus' mother.

We hope, as always, you find this newsletter interesting and informative. Please keep us in your prayers as we support your children in their Religious Education.

The Ascension 28th May



Dates coming up in the Church's calendar:

- 14th May Fifth Sunday of Easter
- 25th May St. Bede
- 27th May St. Augustine of Canterbury
- 28th May The Ascension of the Lord

Class 1 – New Life

“Jesus' life, death and resurrection are the central event of all human history and at the heart of faith”

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

This half term, the children in class 1 will be learning about new life. They will learn about the story of the empty tomb, and learn that Jesus appeared to his disciples. The children will begin to understand the special gift of joy and peace that Jesus gave to his friends (John 20: 19-21) and can give to us as well. They will hear the story of Jesus going back to his Father and learn that one day we shall hopefully go there too.

At home you could help your children by:

- planting an Easter garden
- looking for signs of new life
- practise the Sign of the Cross, 'Our Father' & 'Hail Mary'
- encouraging them to write their own prayers



Class 2 and 3 – Eastertide

“It is the Holy Spirit who forms and guides God’s people to know God and enter into communion with God through Jesus Christ.”

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

Class 2 and 3 will learn that Jesus rose from the dead and still lives with us. They will learn that Jesus told his disciples that he would go back to Heaven but promised that the Holy Spirit would come. They will learn that Jesus ascended into Heaven and promised to return again and that this gives us hope. They will also know the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the apostles at Pentecost and know that the Holy Spirit is promised to us.

At Home

You could help your children by:

- talking about how the Holy Spirit helps us
 - having a close look at the Paschal (Easter) Candle when at Mass
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Class 4 – Life in the Risen Jesus

“Prayer is a living relationship with God in, with and through Jesus Christ. All prayer, whether private or public is God’s gift, the action of the Holy Spirit in us and an expression of this living relationship. Prayer is an expression of the universal search for God and of the response of faith to God’s Self-Revelation”

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

Class 4 will learn the story of the appearance of Jesus to Mary of Magdala and learn that the risen Jesus is present among us in different ways. They will learn about Jesus’ teaching on, and example of, prayer and have a better understanding of the Lord’s Prayer. They will learn that we can pray in different ways.

At Home

You could help your children by:

- reading and discussing the story of Mary of Magdala
 - talking with them about prayer
 - making time for prayer together
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Class 5 – The Work of the Apostles

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.’ Strengthened by this mission, the apostles went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that attended it.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church CCC 2

The children will learn how the apostles changed when they received the Holy Spirit. They will reflect on the power of the Holy Spirit working in the apostles and think about how the Holy Spirit can help them today. They will learn about the character of the first Christian community and read about the special role that Peter and Paul played in spreading the Good News.

At Home

You could help your children by:

- visiting www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link
- reading the story of Pentecost with them and discussing how the apostles changed
- discussing what they have learned about the Holy Spirit and how they can apply this to life

