



Religious Education Newsletter for Parents

Autumn Term 2016

Dear Parents, this term the focus of our studies in R.E. will be on the Domestic Church (Family), Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and Advent and Christmas (Loving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children in classes Yr 1 to Yr 6 will also spend some time studying the Sikh Faith.



DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY



- Early Years: MYSELF** - God knows and loves each one of us
Y1: FAMILIES - God's love and care for every family
Y2: BEGINNINGS - God is present in every beginning
Y3: HOMES - God's vision for every family
Y4: PEOPLE - The family of God in Scripture
Y5: OURSELVES - We are created in the image of God
Y6: LOVING - God who never stops loving

At home you can: talk together about your family. Make a family tree, or a collage, using photographs of family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. Include those who have died. Share stories and memories of how the members of the family show love. Pray together for members of your family by name. Maybe you could together make a thank you prayer to God for the love received and given in your family.

Special times this term

- October the Month of the Rosary
- 1st October: St. Therese of Lisieux*
- 2nd October: CAFOD Harvest Fast Day
- 5th October: Harvest Celebration
- 4th October: St Francis of Assisi
- November: Month of the Holy Souls
- 1st November: All Saints
- 2nd November: All Souls
- 13th November: Remembrance Sunday
- 30th November: St Andrew 27th November: First Sunday of Advent
- 8th December: Immaculate Conception
- 25th December: Christmas Day
- 26th December: St Stephen *

* School House saint

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

- Early Years: WELCOME** -Baptism: a welcome to God's family
Y1: BELONGING - Baptism: an invitation to belong to God's family
Y2: SIGNS AND SYMBOLS - Signs and symbols in Baptism
Y3: PROMISES - Promises made at Baptism
Y4: CALLED - Confirmation: a call to witness
Y5: LIFE CHOICES - Marriage, commitment and service
Y6: VOCATION AND COMMITMENT - The vocations of priesthood and religious life



At home you can: look together at photographs of family celebrations including Baptisms and weddings. Talk about why special events and Sacraments are important in our lives.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

Rejoice!



- Early Years: BIRTHDAY** -Looking forward to Jesus's birthday
Y1: WAITING - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas
Y2: PREPARATIONS - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas
Y3: VISITORS - going to see Jesus
Y4: GIFT - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus
Y5: HOPE - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus
Y6: EXPECTATIONS - Jesus born to show God to the world

At home you can: discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home. Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar to use at home. Make a Birthday card for Jesus which you can then leave at the crib at church.



Study of a Major World Religion: Year 1 – Year 6

At St. Elizabeth's an important part of the RE curriculum each year is a focus on major world religions other than Christianity. In our teaching we explore how people of other faiths live and worship today and we include visits to places of worship. Last year we had a whole school focus on Islam and Judaism. The children were visited by guest speakers and a number of classes visited the Morden Mosque and the Richmond Synagogue.

Other Faiths –Sikhism Year 1 to Year 6

During the Autumn Term, your child(ren) will be learning about the Sikh faith – how Sikhs live and worship today. Pupils in Y3 and Y5 will visit the Sikh Gurdwara in Hounslow, with the rest of the classes hopefully welcoming a Sikh guest speaker.

November- Month of Remembrance

During November, in our assemblies, we pray for members of our families who have died.

Children are invited to bring in a photograph of a family member who has died to place on our 'Friends in Heaven' table. These photographs will be returned at the end of November.

We mark Remembrance Day with the selling of poppies on the school playground after school and our Y2 children visit the British Legion Poppy Factory.



Our school Masses this term

Masses		Assemblies	
New School Year Mass Prepared by Y6	Thurs 15 th Sept	Y5	Weds 28 th Sept
Harvest Mass	Thurs 6 th Oct	Y3	Weds 5 th Oct
Mass for All Saints Day Prepared by Y4 Alpha	1st Nov	Y2	Weds 12 th Oct
		Y6	Weds 9 th Nov
Christmas Mass	Thurs 21st Dec	Y4 Omega	Weds 16 th Nov
		Y1W	Weds 23 rd Nov