St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Autumn 2 2024

Dear Parents,

Please find below information about the topics children will be learning in their Religious Education this half term. EYFS – Year 4 will use the new Religious Education directory '***To Know You More Clearly'*** and Year 5 and 6 will use **'The Way, The Truth and The Life'.**

BRANCH 2 – **Prophecy and Promise**

28th October – 20thDecember





EYFS Prophecy and Promise

In Reception, the children will be exploring the beautiful story of Jesus' birth. They will learn that Mary was chosen by God to give birth to His Son, who was born in a humble stable and laid in a manger. As they engage with the text, the children will hear how angels appeared to shepherds in the fields, telling them to visit the new-born Jesus. Through this exploration, they will focus on key biblical events such as the Annunciation, where Mary accepted God's plan, and the Nativity, which recounts how Jesus came into the world. Additionally, the children will celebrate the tradition of the crib, which beautifully illustrates the story of Jesus' birth. Their work in Advent will help them understand the significance of giving to others, fostering their love for God and showing compassion towards those in need.



Year 1 Prophecy and Promise



In Year 1, the children will be exploring the Christmas story, which reveals how much God loves us by sending Jesus, his Son, into the world. They will begin by being introduced to the Bible, a very special book, through which they will encounter various stories that illustrate how people came to know God and the Good News of Jesus found in the gospels. Throughout this half-term, the children will engage in sequencing the significant accounts, starting from the Annunciation, when God called Mary to her important role, to the joyful visit of the shepherds who came to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Moreover, they will learn that when Mary said 'Yes' to God, it showed her strength and faith, making her a revered figure for Christians. Additionally, the children will match the first words of the Hail Mary prayer with the words spoken by the Angel Gabriel, recognising that angels are messengers of God and reminders of Jesus' divine identity.



Year 2 Prophecy and Promise



In Year 2, the children will explore the significant stories from the Gospel of Luke, focusing on the Annunciation and the births of both John the Baptist and Jesus. These accounts will help the children understand the role of prophets like Isaiah and John the Baptist, who communicated God's messages inspired by the Holy Spirit. The children will learn about Zechariah's special message regarding John's future, where he foretold that John would be the one to prepare the way for Jesus. Furthermore, they will discover how the Church teaches us that Isaiah referred to Jesus even before His birth, acknowledging Mary as the mother of God, who prays for us and supports us. Additionally, the children will examine how Christians prepare for Jesus' coming during Advent, particularly through the symbol of the Advent wreath and how it aids them in their preparation for Christmas, using specific religious terms to enrich their understanding.

Loving all, like Jesus, we flourish together

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Year 3 Prophecy and Promise

In Year 3, the children will explore the significance of Sunday, recognising it as a holy day for Christians, where they will learn that it is a time of rest and reflection, linked to the story of Creation found in Genesis 1:1-2:4. Furthermore, they will gain insight into how Catholics celebrate the Mass, describing some of the special prayers, symbols, and actions performed during this significant ritual, with a particular focus on the Liturgy of the Word. Moreover, they will examine the story of Joseph, understanding how he trusted in God when an angel brought him a message. By making connections between the angel's proclamation about Jesus and the words of the prophet Isaiah, the children will also acknowledge that angels serve as messengers in the gospels of St Matthew and St Luke, helping them to appreciate the continuity of God's message throughout the scriptures.





Year 4 Prophecy and Promise

In Year 4, the children will learn about the role of prophets, focusing on two key figures: Elijah and John the Baptist. The children will compare the description of John the Baptist in Mark and Matthew's accounts and describe the beliefs about John the Baptist the gospel writers show. They will show some understanding of the cultural and religious context of Elijah's time and why people needed to be reminded of God's covenant. They will make links with the words of Isaiah, the preaching of John the Baptist, and the season of Advent. Additionally, the children will explore the significance of the feast of Christ the King, which marks the end of the Church's year, celebrating Jesus's reign. Finally, the children will reflect on the ancestry of Jesus through the Jesse tree, discussing what kind of king they believe Jesus would be and why.





Year 5 God's Covenants

The children will learn that God loves us and calls us into friendship with him.

The children will be shown how the Ten Commandments are a gift from God to help us.
They will learn how Jesus summarised the Ten Commandments (Matthew 22: 36-40) and begin to understand how we can show our love for God by keeping his commandments with his help.

The children will also learn that God sent his Son Jesus into the world because he loves us, and that we celebrate this gift at Christmas.





Year 6 Justice

The children will learn that God called the prophets from the Old Testament and their different responses. They will learn that the prophets spoke out against injustice and that some prophets were persecuted because of their teaching.

We will discuss how Christians are called to work for justice and find out about individuals who have been persecuted for speaking out against injustice.

The children will be taught that Advent is a time of waiting and hoping for the birth of the Messiah at Christmas and understand that the birth of Jesus fulfilled Old Testament prophecies.

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Purposeful End Point

Give a Gift



In each area of our curriculum, we end our topic with a 'Purposeful End Point' giving extra significance to the children's learning. This is especially relevant in RE, encouraging them to **live** our mission statement and helping them flourish not only in school, but also within the wider community.

To support our local community this Christmas, we have chosen the 'Give a Gift' campaign. It asks for toy donations we can pass to Royal Preston Hospital for children/adults waking up in hospital on Christmas morning. If you can help, please send a gift from the attached list by **Monday 16th December** into school. Thank you for your generosity.

IMPORTANT DATES THIS HALF TERM:

1st November	All Saints Day
1st December	Advent begins (First Sunday)
8th December	Second Sunday in Advent
15th December	Third Sunday in Advent
22nd December	Forth Sunday in Advent
25th December	Christmas Day

Thank you for taking the time to read our RE newsletter; we hope you have enjoyed reading about all things RE. Don't forget to check out your class's knowledge organiser to find out ways that you can help at home. All things 'RE' are uploaded to the RE section of the school website found under: 'key information' and 'curriculum'. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any queries or questions.

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