



Autumn Term RE Newsletter 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. We begin our term with a focus on Creation, thanking God for all that He has done for us and how we can best look after His beautiful world.

The beginning of November marks a time to remember those who have gone before us into the loving embrace of God. We then move towards the season of Advent when we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

As the first teachers of faith to your children, you will find a list of suggestions for home activities to support their RE learning. Please do send in pictures or pieces of work to be shared and celebrated with the school community.

Branch 1 – Creation and Covenant

‘The heavens are telling the glory of God’ (Ps 19:1). In this branch, pupils will encounter the God who creates and calls a people. They will explore revelation of the Christian belief that all that is comes from God, the Creation accounts in Genesis, and scientific explanations of the process of Creation. They will explore the call of God and his covenantal relationship with his people first through Abraham and Moses, then through the narrative of the Old Testament. **To Know You More Clearly – Religious Education Directory – Page 62**

Year Group	Scripture
Nursery	
Reception	Genesis 1:31 God created the world and said, ‘Indeed it is very good.’
Year 1	Genesis 1:1-4, 24-26 The Creation story
Year 2	Genesis 9:7-17 The story of Noah, focusing on God’s covenant with Noah and all living beings in the sign of the rainbow. Psalms 139 in praise of God’s creation.
Year 3	Genesis 2:3 That in the first account of the Creation one day is ‘made holy’. Genesis 1:1-2:4 The first account of the Creation Psalms 8 or 19 in praise of Creation.
Year 4	Genesis 12:1-5 The call of Abram Genesis 15:1-6 The Abrahamic covenant Genesis 18:1-15 Abraham and Sarah Genesis 22:1-18 Abraham and Isaac
Year 5/6	Exodus 3:1-15 The Burning Bush Exodus 19:3-8, 20:1-17 The Sinai covenant and the Ten Commandments Matthew 22:36-40 Jesus’ summary of the law

Suggestions for Home Activities

- Read or listen to the story of Creation. What would you like to thank God for?
- Create a piece of artwork to represent your understanding of the Creation story. You could do a painting, a collage, or find another creative way to express your feelings.

Suggestions for Home Activities

- Discuss 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.

Branch 2 – Prophecy and Promise

‘In many and various ways, God spoke to our ancestors by the prophets’ (Heb 1:1). The prophets speak of God reaching to his people, calling them back into a relationship with him. In this branch, pupils will explore the Christian understanding of the teaching of the prophets as they point to the fulfilment of God’s promise in a messiah, Jesus Christ. They will explore the expectant waiting for the Messiah through the Advent season and how this speaks to Christians today as they wait for Christ. Pupils will encounter the story of the nativity of Jesus and the mystery of the incarnation. **To Know You More Clearly – Religious Education Directory – Page 62**

Year Group	Scripture
Nursery	Luke 1:26-31, 38 His name will be Jesus. Luke 2:4-7 Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Luke 2:8-20 Shepherds hurried to see Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus.
Reception	Luke 1:26-31, 38 The Annunciation Luke 2:4-7 The Nativity Luke 2:8-20 The Shepherds visit the manger.
Year 1	Luke 1:26-38 The Annunciation Luke 1:39-45 The Visitation Luke 2:4-8 The Birth of Jesus Luke 2:8-20 The Visit of the Shepherds
Year 2	Luke 1:5-20 The Annunciation of John the Baptist Luke 1:26-38 The Annunciation of Jesus Luke 1:39-50, 53 The Visitation Luke 1:57-58 The birth of John the Baptist Luke 1:59-66, 67, 76 Zechariah’s voice is restored Luke 2:1-8 The Birth of Jesus Isaiah 7-14, 9:1-2, 5-7 For the season of Advent
Year 3	Isaiah 7:14 Messiah would be born of a virgin and would be called Immanuel. Matthew 1:18-25 The Annunciation to Joseph Luke 1:26-38 The Annunciation of Jesus
Year 4	1 Kings 17:7-14 The miracle of the flour and the oil 1 Kings 19:4-8 Elijah’s encounter with God: the journey 1 Kings 19:9-15 The meeting Matthew 3:1-12 and Mark 1:1-8 The preaching of John the Baptist Matthew 1:1-17 The ancestry of Jesus
Year 5/6	1 Samuel 16:1-13 Anointing of David (a great king) 1 Samuel 17:1-11, 32-54 David and Goliath 2 Samuel 5:1-5 David becomes king 2 Samuel 7:8-15 God’s covenant with David 1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12 David’s death Psalms 21:1-7, Psalm 23 Matthew 1:1-17, Luke 1:32-33 Jesus as the fulfilment of the promise to David

Important Dates from the Church's Calendar

Our Lady of Walsingham (24th September)

St Francis of Assisi (4th October)

St Teresa of Avila (15th October)

All Saints (1st November)

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

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls) (2nd 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 (24th November)

Advent (Begins Sunday 1st December)

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 (9th 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 devoted herself to God throughout her life.

Christmas Day, The Nativity of the Lord (25th December)

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

Important Dates from the School's Calendar

New Term Mass at School 6th September 1:30pm

Year 5/6 Class Mass 12th September 2:15pm

Year 5 Class Mass 19th September 2:15pm

Year 4 Class Mass 26th September 2:15pm

Harvest Service in School 4th October

Year 3 Class Mass 10th October

EYFS/KS1 Class Liturgies 24th October 1:15pm

Advent Wreath Service 29th October 2:30pm

Reconciliation Service 5th December 2pm

Nativity Performances EYFS and KS1 9th and 10th December

Christmas Tableaux and Carols 20th December

Prayer for the New School Year

Dear God,

As we begin this new school year, we ask you to fill our hearts with joy, fill our minds with learning, fill our classrooms with peace, fill our friendships with kindness and fill our school with love. Open our minds as we learn about the glory of your creation, grant us courage as we accept new challenges, and help us to play our part in shaping the St Felix community.

Amen.