

St Edward's Catholic First School
Religious Education Newsletter: Summer 2024
"We see Jesus in everything we do."



Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome to the Summer Term RE Newsletter. During the Summer Term, the RE Curriculum covers many different aspects from Easter, Mary Week, Pentecost and Mission and Sacraments. The children continue to build on their previous learning and learn many new aspects through fun and engaging lessons.

School Masses

It has been lovely to welcome so many parents and carers to our school masses. Please see the below of the masses for the rest of the year. Everyone is more than welcome to attend.

Friday 19th April 2024 - 9am

Thursday 9th May - Ascension - 9am

Wednesday 5th June 2024 - First Holy Communion **at St Edward's Church Alma Road** -9.30am

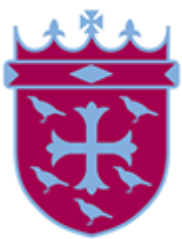
Friday 28th June 2024 - St Peter and St Paul - 9am

Friday 19th July 2024 - Leavers' Mass – **(Year 4 parents only)** 9am

Wednesday 17th July 2024 – Candle Assembly – **Year 3 and 4 parents only** – 2pm

Year Group Masses

Over this term, the remaining year groups will be attending Mass on a Thursday morning at St Marks's Church at 10am. They will walk up to church and will return back to school to continue their day. Please do keep an eye out for confirmation of dates in the near future.



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Sunday Family Masses

The first Sunday of each month is a dedicated to a family mass at St Edward's Church at 11 am, where the children are welcome to take part in readings and the offertory. Please refer to further emails regarding this.

Faith Friends

Before the Easter holidays, the children from Year 3 and 4 had the opportunity to apply to become a Faith Friend. Faith Friends will work towards promoting the Catholic life of the school, help prepare Mass, plan and lead some school 'Celebration of the Word' and also encourage others to promote our Catholic Social Teaching challenges that we are set throughout the week. It was a very hard decision in who to choose as they all had some wonderful ideas. The children who secured their positions were Lucie, Maxim, Tomy, Irene, Elsie, Hana, Ivy and Tishe. Our fabulous servers, Zuzi and Amelia will also be a part of our discussions at our meetings. These children will be greeting all who attend our next masses. Please do look out for them.



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Religious Education

Outlined below is the Portsmouth Diocesan Scheme 'God Matters' RE Curriculum content that the children will be studying across the school this term. Although the children study RE in units at the same time, the content of each unit is different and becomes more challenging as the children progress through the school. The timetable below gives you an idea of the main focus of each of this term's units for each different year group.

	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Easter	<p>Focus question: How does Jesus show love for others?</p> <p>How were the friends of Jesus feeling after his death on the cross? What happened at the first Easter? How were the friends of Jesus feeling after his resurrection? Why is Easter link to new life? How can we bring hope and joy to others?</p>	<p>Focus question: Why is Easter such an important part of our faith?</p> <p>How can Easter change people? What is a witness? What does it mean to bear witness? What does it mean to be a witness for Jesus? Who is bearing witness to the Risen Christ today?</p>	<p>Focus question: Is it okay for people to doubt?</p> <p>What do you already know about the Easter Story? What does it mean to have faith? 'Blessed are those who have seen and not yet believe' – Who was Jesus talking about? How can light strengthen us in times of doubt? How can we share our faith with others?</p>	<p>Focus question: Why did Jesus choose not to save Himself?</p> <p>What do you already know about the Easter Story? When did Jesus appear to His disciples? What happened on the shore of Galilee? Why was Peter asked to 'Feed my sheep'? What message does the story of Breakfast on the Shore have for us today? When do we share a special meal with Jesus?</p>	<p>Focus question: What would the impact be if the resurrection had not taken place?</p> <p>What have we learnt so far on our journey through Holy Week and Easter? How can a journey change the way we act and think? Where was the disciples' Easter story taking them? Who can inspire and support us on our own journey to be witness to Christ?</p>



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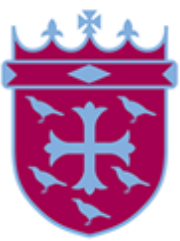
Pentecost & Mission	<p>Focus question: How can the Holy Spirit help us?</p> <p>How did the friends of Jesus feel after he left them to go back to his Father? What happened to the friends of Jesus at Pentecost? What did the friends of Jesus do after Pentecost? What should friends of Jesus do today to show they are his followers?</p>	<p>Focus question: Do you support Jesus in all you do?</p> <p>When did Pentecost happen? What happened at Pentecost? What did the disciples do afterwards? What should we tell others about Jesus?</p>	<p>Focus question: What would you promise God</p> <p>Where have we heard about promises in the Bible? How did Jesus fulfil his promise? What was the impact of Jesus' promise to His followers? How does the Church use the gifts of the Holy Spirit today? What promises did Jesus keep at Pentecost?</p>	<p>Focus question: What happens if we do not let the Holy Spirit into our lives?</p> <p>What was the effect of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost? What gifts did the Holy Spirit bring? How did the Holy Spirit transform St Paul? Where is the Holy Spirit present in Mass? How are we transformed by the Holy Spirit?</p>	<p>Focus question: What would life be like now if the Holy Spirit did not appear to the disciples?</p> <p>What happened at the Feast of Pentecost? What effect did the coming of the Holy Spirit have on the disciples? What does St Paul say are the key qualities of a witness and how do the saints provide us with an example of giving witness? Where can you see the Holy Spirit at work today?</p>
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Sacraments	<p>Focus question: How do we know Jesus is with us? Where is God present in our lives as we grow and change? When do we come together as God's family to pray and say thank you? What happens at some of the sacraments?</p>	<p>Focus question: How can you show forgiveness? When is God close to us? How did Jesus show it is important to heal people? How does forgiveness heal people? How does it feel when we do wrong? How does it feel when we are forgiven? How does it feel when we forgive?</p>	<p>Focus question: Why should we make everyone welcome in our lives? What do we already know about the Sacraments? What do the promises and the symbols of baptism tell us about the sacrament? How do the symbols of bread and wine help us understand the heart of the sacrament of the Eucharist? What do the promises exchanged and the symbolism of the wedding ring tell us about God's hopes for us in the sacrament of marriage?</p>	<p>Focus question: Does going to Church make you a better person? What do we already know about the Sacraments? How do we know we belong? When did Jesus feed His followers and how does He feed them today? How can we show we are grateful for the gift of the Eucharist?</p>	<p>Focus question: What is your mission in life? How does God call His followers? Who else did God call? What does it mean to have a vocation? How am I called to serve?</p>
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Prayer Garden

We would like to build a prayer garden in the courtyard area of the school. This will be for everyone to use from the children and their classes during the school day, but also for parents and carers. It is quite a large job and we are looking for volunteers who may be able to get the project started. The area will need clearing, with the plants and bulbs that are already in place being planted elsewhere in the school grounds, maintenance of the area, digging, laying top soil, planting, building structures etc. If you think that you may be able to help in some way, please email the office at office@secfs.org.uk and put FAO of Miss McGuckian prayer garden, and we will put together a plan of action in the near future.

Many thanks for your continued support to the school.

Miss McGuckian