



# RE Spring Newsletter



As we begin the Spring Term, we reflect with gratitude on the close of last term. The Nativity and Advent concerts were joyful celebrations of the Christmas message, and we were very proud of our children for presenting the story of Christ's birth with such reverence and care. We were also proud of our school choir, who sang at The Glades, raising funds for the Maypole Project which does such important work supporting children with complex medical needs.

In the spirit of love and compassion, children took part in the PACT Christmas card project for prisoners, creating and donating over 100 cards. Through this thoughtful act, they shared messages of hope, kindness, and dignity, living out the call to see Christ in everyone. Children in Year Three used the proceeds of their cake sale to purchase Christmas gifts for Chartwell Children's Trust, which were gratefully received.

We begin this term full of the joy of the Christmas season, which concludes with the celebration of the Baptism of Jesus on 12th January. The Feast of the Epiphany reflects on how Christ's light is revealed to the world and calls us to share His love, hope, and peace through kindness, faith, and service. On 2nd February, we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas), when Jesus is recognised as 'The Light of the World', reminding us that each of us is called to be a light and inspiration to those around us. January also marks Christian Unity Week, encouraging children to reflect on the importance of respect, peace, and coming together in faith. Through these celebrations and our RE lessons, children are reminded that God is with them at the start of the new year, guiding them in their daily lives.

## Key Dates

- 19th January: New Year Mass
- 18th January: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 2nd February: Children's Mental Health Week
- 9th February: Reconciliation
- 14th February: CAFOD Family Fast Day
- 18th February: Ash Wednesday
- 24th February: Stations of the Cross
- 18th March: Global Recycling Day
- 21st March: CAFOD Spring Walk
- 24th March: Oscar Romero Feast Day
- March Year 5: Passion Play

February will welcome the season of Lent, a time of prayer, reflection, and preparation for Easter. Children will take part in our annual Lent Walk, raising money for CAFOD, helping to support communities around the world.

During March, we will celebrate the Feast of St Oscar Romero, reflecting on his courage, faith, and commitment to justice. We will also mark National Recycling Day, when the Green Team will join with the Mini Menas to lead activities focused on stewardship, reminding us of our responsibility to care for God's world.

Toward the end of the term, Year 5 children will perform a Passion Play, helping deepen our understanding of the events of Holy Week as we prepare for the joy and celebration of Easter. Our learning and worship during this time will focus on Easter preparations, ensuring children can experience the hope, renewal, and happiness that Christ's resurrection brings.

As we journey through this term, we keep close to the words of Jesus in the Gospel:

"I am the light of the world; anyone who follows me will not be walking in the dark, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Through prayer, worship, and everyday acts of kindness, we encourage our children to follow Christ's light, growing in faith and love as we prepare for the hope and joy of Easter.

Our RE Ambassadors, collectively known as the Mini Menas, strive to live their lives in the example of St Philomena, daughter of light. They have had a very busy Autumn Term, including:



Managing prayer corners in each classroom, setting up collective worship prayer tables and organising class prayer books. Mini Menas share the monthly virtue and look out for children who are strong examples of living it out in their daily lives.



Planning and supporting worship at Mass and helping to mark key times in the Church and school calendar, including Remembrance Day and the Harvest Festival — important opportunities for prayer and reflection.



Working on a coat donation rack and creating an outdoor prayer and reflection area for the school community. This will be supported by our chaplaincy team, who will guide and support the children as the space develops.

## RE Curriculum Grid

The grid below shows the topics that the children are focusing on in RE during the Spring term. You can support your child by exploring these themes together at home through conversation, prayer and shared reflection. Children have RE home learning to complete, which has been shared via their class Seesaw page. We look forward to seeing their faith in action.

Year Group	Spring 1	Spring 2
Reception	Getting to know Jesus	Sorrow and Joy
Year 1	Families and Celebrations	Following Jesus
Year 2	The Good News	The Mass
Year 3	The Sacrament of Reconciliation	Celebrating the Mass
Year 4	Jesus the Teacher	Jesus the Saviour
Year 5	Inspirational People	Reconciliation
Year 6	Exploring the Mass	Jesus the Messiah

## Spring Term Values

In the Spring term, our monthly focuses are: January: Friendship, February: Love of neighbour, March: Self-control, April: Reflection. These virtues help children grow in faith, character, and awareness of Gospel values through their thoughts, words, and actions. Children explore each virtue in class, in collective worship, and in their interactions with others. They reflect on how to live out these virtues in everyday life. Certificates are awarded in celebration assemblies to recognise their efforts. Through this, children develop a deeper understanding of how Gospel values can guide their choices and interactions.

## Dates from the Church's Calendar

17th February – Shrove Tuesday 18th February – Ash Wednesday 22nd February – First Sunday of Lent 1st March – Second Sunday of Lent 8th March – Third Sunday of Lent 15th March – Fourth Sunday of Lent 1st March – St David, Patron of Wales	17th March – St Patrick, Patron of Ireland 19th March – St Joseph, Husband of Mary 25th March – The Annunciation 29th March – Palm Sunday 2nd April – Holy Thursday 3rd April – Good Friday 5th April – Easter Sunday
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May the blessings of Christ be with you and your family throughout this term.  
Thank you for your continued support in nurturing the children's faith and growth.

Best Wishes,  
Mrs Anderson