

R.E. NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

God Matters

This term your child(ren) will be studying **PENTECOST AND MISSION** in Religious Education:



RECEPTION

During this unit the children will hear the story of Pentecost and be introduced to the Holy Spirit. They will look at what the Disciples did when Jesus left them.

Help at home

- Set up a small prayer area at home with a candle that is lit when you/they say a prayer. Talk to the children about the fact that Jesus is not with us but that when we light a candle it is a sign of him.
- Get your child to make a flame out of red or yellow paper and stick it on a piece of white card. On the back write the names of their special friends and why they are their friends.
- Watch an animated version of the story of Pentecost.



YEAR ONE

The children will again focus on the story but look at the symbolism i.e. the wind, flames and dove. They will be introduced to the idea of the Holy Spirit also being God. They will also look at what it means to be a Disciple.

Help at home

- Get your child to draw you a picture of the Pentecost story.
- Draw and cut out a picture of a dove and hang it somewhere where it can move because of the wind.
- Using an old shoe box help your child to construct a 3D image of the Pentecost story.
- Get the children to investigate if they can see the wind, discuss how they know it is there.



YEAR 2

Children will look at how the Holy Spirit at Pentecost transformed the Disciples life. They will make the link between the Holy Spirit and the symbol of peace. They will learn that peace is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. They will look at the Eucharistic Prayer in the Mass and links with the Holy Spirit.

Help at home

- If you have access to a transformer toy discuss how it can change into different things and make links with the fact that this is what happened to the disciples.
- Read or watch the story of Saul and how he transformed his life because of the coming of the Holy Spirit.
- Talk to the children about how they would have changed if they had been in the room when the Holy Spirit came.



YEAR 3

The children will talk about what it means to make a promise and the promise Jesus made to his Disciples. They will look at promises in other stories in the Bible e.g. Noah's ark.

They will be introduced to the sacrament of confirmation very simply and how we renew baptismal promises.

They will also learn that Pentecost is considered to be the birthday of the church.

Help at home

- Make a cardboard birthday cake with candles on and put it on display in the house to celebrate Pentecost.
- Draw and cut out a picture of Jesus and write the promise he made to his Disciples for Pentecost.
- Look up the promises that parents make when their child is baptised.
- Look up the colour associated with the season of Pentecost.

YEAR 4

The children will explore what it means to be a witness to Christ and how this is linked to the Pentecost story.

They will also explore the term spreading the Good News and how this was done after Jesus went back to his Father. They will also look at how Saints show they are a witness to Christ.

Help at home

- Talk to your child about what it means if you were a witness to a crime. What type of things would you have to tell the police? Discuss why police need witnesses to help them.
- Get your child to look at a picture and then describe it to or draw it for another person to see how much they remember.
- Help your child research a Saint and discuss how they showed they were a witness to Christ.



YEAR 5

Children will be looking at the 'Trinity'. They will focus in depth on the different titles associated with the Holy Spirit.

They will also make links with the Disciples' ability to speak in different languages and spread the word across the world. They will link this with the imagery of tongues of fire.

Help at home

- Get your children to draw a diagram of what the Trinity means and explain it to you.
- Help your child research the word Holy Spirit or Hello in different languages and make a poster of them all.
- Ask your child to draw a poster to encourage people to become a follower of Christ.



Year 6



The children will learn to recall the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit and how they use these in their own life. They will explore how they can become a witness to the faith. They will look at the different accounts of the story of Pentecost and understand why there are different accounts. They will develop their understanding of the use of imagery and symbols in the accounts.

Help at home

- Help you child make up a poem or rhyme to remember all the gifts or fruits of the Holy Spirit.
- Discuss with your child how they feel if they give someone a gift and they do not use it.
- Help your children research what someone who is a missionary worker does and how this may be linked to being a witness to Christ.
- Look at the fruits of the Holy Spirit and together decide on one you feel you struggle with and you will work on. Have chats about how you are doing.

KEY EVENTS

Ascension	17 th May
Pentecost Sunday	27 th May
Trinity Sunday	3 rd June
Corpus Christi	7 th June

EVENTS AND SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS