



Religious Education – God Matters Units-**Extra Curricular**

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6			
EYFS Reception	Creation	Prayers Saints and Feasts	Advent	Christmas	Revelation	Lent & Holy Week	Easter	Pentecost and Mission	Sacraments
Year 1	<p>Creation</p> <p>This unit is designed to develop children's appreciation of themselves and the world around them as part of God's creation. It should help children know that our response to His creation is to give praise. They should start to know that the church is a place of prayer and praise as well. The multi-faith element introduces the Jewish religion.</p>	<p>Prayer Saints and Feasts</p> <p>This unit is designed to develop children's understanding of prayer. It will introduce them to different kinds of prayer including the psalms. Children will be able to develop an understanding of why the Church has saints. They will begin to appreciate that saints provide an example of faith and allow us to use this example to further our relationship with God. Pupils will begin to understand that we follow a liturgical cycle, which helps us explore different aspects of our faith. This unit also allows us to appreciate other faiths, such as Islam and know that prayer is part of their routine.</p>	<p>Advent</p> <p>This unit is designed to develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of the season of Advent further. It looks at getting ready for the Birth of Jesus through the eyes of Mary and Joseph. The main focus is to identify their response to God and the qualities they demonstrated by responding to him in that way. There is also a focus on the joy of the Advent season.</p>	<p>Christmas</p> <p>This unit builds on work done in Advent and in the previous year at Christmas. It will enable children to explore the Christmas story further and relate this story to their own birth. There is an opportunity to examine the similarities and differences. Through the eyes of the inn-keeper and the Wise Men, the reaction to the Birth of Jesus is examined. All the activities should involve lots of discussion and role-play.</p>	<p>Revelation</p> <p>In this unit the pupils are introduced to stories that show how special Jesus is. They begin to explore, through the story of the good Samaritan, what God's love is like. The pupils are also introduced to miracles stories, which show how important Jesus is and to the idea of signs and symbols. The multi-faith element introduces the religion of Sikhism.</p>	<p>Lent & Holy Week</p> <p>This unit introduces more detail about the events of Holy Week. It should enable pupils to explore all the things that Jesus did for us. It highlights the importance of the Last Supper and introduces the Stations of the Cross as a prayer. Focus should be on discussion, dialogue and sequencing the events. Connection between these events and the prayer life of the Church should also be made.</p>	<p>Easter</p> <p>This unit should enable children to discuss and further respond to the story of the resurrection. The activities are designed to develop the skills of empathy which will enable pupils to know what impact the resurrection had on the lives of ordinary people who witnessed it. The multi-faith element looks at the stories of Hinduism.</p>	<p>Pentecost and Mission</p> <p>This unit invites pupils to deepen their knowledge of the Pentecost story and consider the symbolism of the story. Opportunities are provided to explore the nature of the symbolism. The nature of the disciples' response to Pentecost is explored.</p>	<p>Sacraments</p> <p>This unit builds on the work done in reception class and in particular starts to focus on forgiveness and healing. It establishes the relationship of the actions of healing and forgiveness with Jesus. By exploring the healing and forgiveness of Jesus, pupils should begin to explore their importance in their own lives and the life of the Church.</p>
Year 2	<p>Creation</p> <p>This unit is designed to give some insight into the stories and characters of the Old Testament. It will build on their knowledge of God as creator and start to provide an image of God wishing to protect and care for His universe. It highlights how God works through people to exercise this care and protection. The unit should also begin to highlight the importance of the Old Testament for the Church. And why we proclaim it as the Word of God. The multi-faith element looks at the Jewish Festival of the Harvest.</p>	<p>Prayer Saints and Feasts</p> <p>This unit is designed to develop children's understanding of prayer. It will introduce them to different kinds of prayer including the psalms. Children will be able to develop an understanding of why the Church has saints. They will begin to appreciate that saints provide an example of faith and allow us to use this example to further our relationship with God. Pupils will begin to understand that we follow a liturgical cycle, which helps us explore different aspects of our faith. This unit also allows us to appreciate other faiths, such as Islam and know that prayer is part of their routine.</p>	<p>Advent</p> <p>This unit is designed to deepen pupils' knowledge and understanding of the season of Advent. It looks at getting ready for the Birth of Jesus by helping us remember that God promised to send us His Son and that Jesus is the fulfilment of that promise. It introduces the idea of what a prophet does and what angels do. It helps us understand that people such as John the Baptist help us understand the nature of this promise and provide example and inspiration of how we should respond to it. Further reinforcement is provided on the symbolism of Advent. It also develops the idea that we get ready as a parish community, as the family of God.</p>	<p>Christmas</p> <p>This purpose of this unit is to deepen understanding of the Annunciation and the events of the Christmas story. Emphasis is placed on the journeys associated with the Birth of Jesus, as well as highlighting what we learn about Jesus from these journeys. This work will help set the context socially, religiously and geographically for the Birth of Jesus. The question is also raised of the implications for the Church's work today. For example consideration is given to the Church's work with refugees in the light of the 'Flight to Egypt'.</p>	<p>Revelation</p> <p>This helps the pupils become aware of stories from Scripture, which show how special Jesus is. The miracle stories show that the Kingdom of God is present within him. The unit enables the pupils to explore the parables and begin to understand some of the meaning behind them. The multi-faith element explores some of the things that Sikhs do to show their faith.</p>	<p>Lent & Holy Week</p> <p>This unit reinforces the understanding of Lent as being preparation for Easter, commencing with Ash Wednesday and being a time of seeking forgiveness and doing penance. The parables of the lost sheep and the unforgiving servant reinforce this teaching. The words of the Our Father help us to consider both the importance of prayer and the relationship between Jesus and the Father. The multi-faith element looks at the importance of the Torah to the Jewish faith.</p>	<p>Easter</p> <p>Further detail is provided for the account of the empty tomb. Thomas is introduced to help pupils understand that not all people responded to the resurrection of Jesus in the same way. The accounts are found in the Gospels. Detail is provided for the symbolism of Easter. The Hindu feast of Holi is studied in the multi-faith element.</p>	<p>Pentecost and Mission</p> <p>In this unit, the pupils' knowledge of the Pentecost story is built upon. Some key concepts of the events at Pentecost are shared. The nature of the promise made by Jesus is a key focus. An understanding of Pentecost as the birthday of the Church is developed. Links are also made between Confirmation and Pentecost.</p>	<p>Sacraments</p> <p>The purpose this unit is to enable the children to develop their understanding of what a sacrament is. This understanding is developed through exploration of what happens during the Sacraments of Baptism, Matrimony and the Eucharist.</p>
Year 3	<p>Creation</p> <p>This unit is designed to give some insight into how we are called to be part of God's creation. How we are called is examined through the calling of the disciples. The main teaching of this calling is that we should respond. Through baptism we are called and our parents respond on our behalf. Baptism calls us to see the world through God's eyes and live out a new life with Him. By living out that life and responding to His call we are protecting His creation. The multi-faith element looks at initiation rites in the Hindu faith.</p>	<p>Prayers Saints and Feasts</p> <p>This unit explores the twin themes of peace and forgiveness expressed both by Jesus and in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The children will develop their knowledge of the Sacrament of Reconciliation as well as an understanding of what Jesus taught about forgiveness in the story of Zacchaeus. This builds on work undertaken in year 1. Through the life of St Francis of Assisi, the place of prayer in seeking forgiveness and peace is also explored. In the multi-faith teaching the pupils will look at the role of Muhammad as the last prophet.</p>	<p>Advent</p> <p>This unit is designed to deepen pupils' knowledge and understanding of the season of Advent. The story of the Annunciation details the response of Mary to the news that she is to be the mother of Jesus. This unit will focus on Mary's acceptance of her vocation. When she declares; "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord: let it be to me according to your word" In the light of this acceptance of her vocation, we explore what we are required to do to get ready for the presence of Jesus. The parable of the sheep and goats provides a challenge to us to respond to the presence of Jesus.</p>	<p>Christmas</p> <p>This unit looks at the Christmas story from the perspective of the shepherds. Their response invites an exploration of the language they used and also consideration of the nature of the ministry of Jesus, which was to care for and live among the poor and marginalised. The symbolism of the nativity scene is examined through the story of the first crib.</p>	<p>Revelation</p> <p>This unit is designed to support pupils in year 3 who may be making their first Holy Communion and begin to understand the parts of the Mass. Pupils are invited to explore how Sacred Scripture proclaims ways in which we are saved. It explores the response of Samuel to God's plan and considers what we can learn from it. Opportunities are provided for pupils to know what the Liturgy of the Word is and what our response should be, as well as broadening their knowledge of what is contained in the Bible. It introduces work on the Presentation and the Baptism of Jesus to enable pupils to begin to explore how people recognised God's revelation of Himself in Jesus. The multi-faith element explores what happens at the Gurdwara – the Sikh place of worship.</p>	<p>Lent & Holy Week</p> <p>This unit further explores Lent as a time when we prepare for Easter. It enables pupils to explore how this preparation involves change. The multi-faith element explores the importance of prayer in the Jewish faith.</p>	<p>Easter</p> <p>Connections are made in this unit between the events of Easter, Holy Week, the teachings and life of Jesus and the celebration of the Eucharist. There is a focus on the appearance of Jesus to his disciples. Symbolism of the Easter season, including the liturgical colours is explored. Hindu worship is the focus of the multi-faith element.</p>	<p>Pentecost and Mission</p> <p>This unit should enable a deeper understanding of the gift of the Holy Spirit, as well as providing support for those pupils engaged in preparation for their first Holy Communion. Study of the conversion of St Paul explores the transforming nature of the Spirit. Study of the Eucharistic Prayer focuses on the Consecration and the power of the Spirit.</p>	<p>Sacraments</p> <p>This unit helps deepen pupils' knowledge and understanding of the Sacrament of the Eucharist. It expresses both what happens during Mass and the meaning behind what happens. It should be used to support those pupils about to receive Holy Communion for the first time.</p>
Year 4	<p>Creation</p> <p>This unit is designed to give more information about the story of creation. It is designed to help children explore the concept of 'image and likeness of God' and because God is in all of us we are called to respect and value our similarities and differences. In valuing and respecting those similarities and differences, we are called to be united together to eradicate injustice and give dignity to the human person. Through knowledge of the Jewish faith, the children will explore the skills of reverence and respect and reflect on how to apply these in their own lives of faith. Artefacts of Judaism are explored in the multi-faith element.</p>	<p>Prayers Saints and Feasts</p> <p>In this unit pupils will learn about the prayer life of Jesus as he grew up in the Jewish faith. The children will be introduced to some prayers of the Old Testament and reflect on the importance that Jesus attached to prayer and how he taught his followers to pray. Pupils will also reflect on the importance of prayers to Mary in the life of the Church and research the history of the Rosary. Pupils will also learn through the Islamic faith the importance of prayers in other religions.</p>	<p>Advent</p> <p>This unit is designed to deepen understanding of what God promised when He promised to send His Son. It details how Jesus is the ultimate fulfilment of this promise. The ancestry of Jesus is explored to enable a deeper understanding of the nature of the Messiah. This will link this work to what we celebrate and prepare for in Advent. The meaning behind some of the titles and names given to Jesus are explored. Titles such as Messiah and Emmanuel will provide insight into the nature of Jesus, as well as the role of the prophets, who help prepare us for the presence of Jesus. Star Trail Visit at St. Peter's Church</p>	<p>Christmas</p> <p>This unit examines the role of the angels in the Christmas story. It provides an invitation to identify ways in which we can be messengers of the Good News today. Opportunities are provided to consider specific role models of people, who have been messengers of the Good News in the life of the Church. The feasts associated with Christmas, such as the Annunciation and the birth of John the Baptist, are also explored. Ways in which the parish community celebrates Christmas are also identified.</p>	<p>Revelation</p> <p>This unit considers two examples of God's revelation of Himself in Jesus. In the Presentation, the revelation of God is recognised by Simeon and Anna. In the Transfiguration, the disciples respond with fear but beheld His glory. Consideration is also given to the symbolism of light and why this symbol is important. In the multi-faith element, the origins of the Sikh religion and their celebrations of light over darkness are considered.</p>	<p>Lent & Holy Week</p> <p>In this unit the previous understanding of forgiveness and penance is built upon, with a focus on the Temptation of Jesus. Pupils are invited to express what they learn from his example. Pupils should be enabled to develop and explore how prayer, fasting, almsgiving and living out the Beatitudes help us prepare for Easter. In the multi-faith element, pupils examine Yom Kippur.</p>	<p>Easter</p> <p>In this unit there is a continued focus on the appearances of Jesus with an explanation of the road to Emmaus story. Pupils are introduced to and examine the Ascension and what it teaches us. The Hindu festival of Divali is explored in the multi-faith element.</p>	<p>Pentecost and Mission</p> <p>The focus for this unit is the 'handing on of faith' through the work of the apostles, saints and ourselves. The nature of the Holy Spirit is explored as identified in Scripture. This should develop an understanding of what this means in their own life.</p>	<p>Sacraments</p> <p>This unit helps pupils to explore the nature of vocation and its symbolism in preparation for work on the sacraments of vocation in year 5. This is done through Old Testament stories which show how God calls people in faith and the symbolism of anointing.</p>

<p>Year 5</p>	<p>Creation</p> <p>This unit is designed to explore how we become co-creators. The starting point for this exploration is the two creation stories in Genesis. This then requires understanding of what it means to be the People of God as expressed by St Paul and of the teachings expressed in the Beatitudes. This will help teachers to reflect with the children on their own God-given talents and living their lives in response to the teaching of Christ. The multi-faith element looks at the five pillars of Islam.</p>	<p>Prayers Saints and Feasts</p> <p>This unit will help children understand that the work of Jesus is continued through us. This is expressed in the prayer of St Teresa of Avila. We are called to continue his healing through our own sacrifice. The concept of pilgrimage as a journey of prayer will also be covered. In the multi-faith element of the unit the importance of the pilgrimage to Muslims will be covered.</p> <p>The second of the two Sacraments of Healing will be studied, whilst focusing on the part prayer plays in healing. (The first Sacrament is Reconciliation.) The children will also hear about the work of the Church in ministering to the sick today.</p> <p>The multi-faith element examines the significance of Mecca as a place of pilgrimage for Muslims.</p>	<p>Advent</p> <p>This unit is designed to deepen understanding of what God promised when he promised to send his Son. It details how Jesus is the ultimate fulfilment of this promise. The ancestry of Jesus is explored to enable a deeper understanding of the nature of the Messiah. This will link this work to what we celebrate and prepare for in Advent. The meaning behind some of the titles and names given to Jesus are explored. Titles such as Messiah and Emmanuel will provide insight into the nature of Jesus as well as the role of the prophets who help prepare us for the presence of Jesus.</p>	<p>Christmas</p> <p>This unit explores the Christmas story in greater detail and looks at some of the difficulties encountered by the Holy Family as a result of the Birth of Jesus. In particular, the effects of being homeless and a refugee are covered. Connections are made between the plight of Jesus and the homeless and refugees today. The role of King Herod highlights the problems faced by the refugees and homeless today. A focus is also provided on Christmas being a time of prayer and devotion.</p>	<p>Revelation</p> <p>This unit considers the recognition of God's revelation of Himself in Jesus, by John the Baptist. The words; "This is my Son the Beloved, my favour rests on him" can provide a basis for this consideration. The importance of baptism for us is also examined.. Study of certain parables assists with our understanding of the Kingdom of God and helps deepen understanding of how the divine revelation is communicated and passed on. Jesus, through his parables, teaches us to recognise God's Kingdom. In the multi-faith element the stories of Guru Nanak are covered and there is an opportunity to reflect on his teachings.</p>	<p>Lent & Holy Week</p> <p>This unit revises and builds on the work done in year 4 on Lent. Understanding of the Temptation of Jesus and the symbolism of Lent is revised. Ways in which we prepare for Easter in Lent are explored at a deeper level. Preparation for Easter involves becoming more like Jesus. St Paul provides a quick guide for how this can be achieved. The multi-faith element explores Jewish understanding of repentance.</p>	<p>Easter</p> <p>In this unit there is a continued focus on the appearances of Jesus with an explanation of the road to Emmaus story. Pupils are introduced to and examine the Ascension and what it teaches us. The Hindu festival of Diwali is explored in the multi-faith element.</p>	<p>Pentecost and Mission</p> <p>In this unit pupils are invited to consider the universal nature of the Church by identifying the range of people represented in the account of Pentecost. By exploring the different titles of the Holy Spirit pupils should be able to explore how they can be disciples of Jesus. They should also understand the Holy Spirit as being part of the Trinity.</p>	<p>Sacraments</p> <p>This unit explores in greater depth the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony. Pupils should gain an understanding of the symbolism associated with the two sacraments.</p>
<p>Year 6</p>	<p>Creation</p> <p>This unit explores what it means to be the 'People of God' through the eyes of Moses. Having been created by God, we exercise our freedom to deepen our relationship with God and overcome the barriers of jealousy and disharmony. It also highlights the need to follow God's law and by upholding the commandments, we uphold the will of God. Upholding the will of God involves personal choices and often sacrifices. The nature of this sacrifice is explored in this unit. The work of the Church in overcoming the barriers is also considered.</p> <p>By exploring these concepts the children are providing meaning to the line in the Creed which states: "I believe in the Holy Catholic Church". In the multi-faith element, the importance of the Sabbath for Jews is examined.</p>	<p>Prayers Saints and Feasts</p> <p>This unit explores the concept of heaven and the Church's belief in Mary and the feasts celebrated in her honour. It examines our understanding of what heaven is. The children will take a more detailed look at the lives of the Holy Souls and the saints and their significance for us today.</p> <p>In the multi-faith element, the importance of the prophet to the Islamic faith is also covered.</p>	<p>Advent</p> <p>This unit builds on work done in previous years in Advent. It provides further detail on the nature of the Messiah who is to come, but provides a deeper opportunity to explore the response demanded of Christ's followers. The teachings of Christ, through his parables, provide us detailed teaching on watching and being prepared for the coming of God's Kingdom. The time of Advent is when we also prepare for the Second Coming of Christ through our prayers and by following Christ.</p>	<p>Christmas</p> <p>This unit provides an opportunity for a more detailed look at the Christmas story through the eyes of the Gospel writers. A particular focus is given to St John's Prologue, which describes Jesus as 'the Word'. The meaning of the word 'Incarnation' is illustrated and developed. This will open out the different images of Jesus that are portrayed in Scripture. Similarities between the Christmas story, which appears in Matthew and Luke's Gospels, are also considered.</p>	<p>Revelation</p> <p>This unit examines the conversion of St Paul. The impact of this conversion to himself, on those around him and the Church are considered. There is an invitation to reflect on the deep and personal relationship St Paul enjoyed with Jesus and an opportunity to think how we might learn from him. God reveals Himself and His plan of loving goodness. Pupils are invited to consider how this divine revelation is transmitted. In considering Matthew 28:19-20, pupils will consider what is meant by 'Apostolic Tradition'. The multi-faith element looks at the role of the guru in the Sikh religion.</p>	<p>Lent & Holy Week</p> <p>The means by which we prepare for Easter are explored in depth through the teachings of Jesus in the parable of the rich man and Lazarus and the account of the Samaritan woman at the well. It allows for understanding of who Jesus is and whom he calls us to be. The Beatitudes are revised as fulfilment of God's promise. Moses' importance to the Jewish faith is expressed in the multi-faith element.</p>	<p>Easter</p> <p>This unit provides opportunities to explore in real detail the events of the Easter season. This is achieved by examining the parallel accounts of the Gospels. The Christian beliefs in eternal life are explored through examination of Scripture and the Catholic funeral liturgy.</p> <p>Opportunities are also provided to explore the Hindu belief in reincarnation in the multi-faith element.</p>	<p>Pentecost and Mission</p> <p>This unit should support year 6 pupils as they prepare for transition to secondary school. Clear links are made to the Sacrament of Confirmation and there is reflection on the effect of the Holy Spirit in their lives.</p>	<p>Sacraments</p> <p>This unit builds on all the work undertaken on sacraments in previous years and should enable pupils to explore sacraments at a deeper level. In particular, pupils should understand their own role in the Church as a result.</p>

Advent- Prayer bags – Prayer in the family home

Chaplaincy meetings 2 x per month

Day Retreat for Year 4 with St Francis

Day retreat for Year 6

Lent Pilgrimage

6 x per year family/school mass at St Joseph's church

Year 6 leavers mass at the Cathedral

Chaplaincy day out with the Newman Partnership