

St. Thomas of Canterbury RE & Catholic Life Newsletter



Autumn Term 2018

We have worked to put this together to help you and your family celebrate and pray with us over this term. Together with key dates of events inside our school and community. We would like to formally welcome Mr Richardson as the new RE Lead Teacher, and he, along with all members of the school community, will be working hard to keep at the forefront of everything we do, the Catholic mission of the school. Each term, you will receive an 'RE & Catholic Life' newsletter which will detail what the children will be learning over the course of the term in their RE lessons, and will also give some ideas about how you can support this in the family home.

At the end of each RE topic (roughly every 3-4 weeks) you will receive home a 'Respond' booklet which will invite you to reflect as a family on the learning of your child/ren through their RE topic. You are then warmly invited to send this back to school. More information will be shared when you receive your first booklet.

In all we do this Autumn term we will try to use **words and actions** that make the world a better place. We would like to emphasise and promote the concept of 'Family' which is the key message from Pope Francis.

RE Topics

These are the themes covered in RE across each year group until Christmas:

THEMES & TOPICS	EARLY YEARS 1 & 2	YEAR 1 & FS 1	YEAR 2 & FS 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
Domestic church family	Myself God knows and loves each one	Families God's love and care for every family	Beginnings God at every beginning	Homes God's dream for every family	People The family of God in Scripture	Ourselves Created in the image & likeness of God	Loving God who never stops loving
Baptism/confirmation belonging	Welcome Baptism; a welcome to God's family	Belonging Baptism an invitation to belong to God's family	Signs & symbols Signs & symbols in Baptism	Promises Promises made at Baptism	Called Confirmation: a call to witness	Life choices Marriage commitment and service	Vocation & commitment The vocation of priesthood and religious life
Advent/Christmas loving	Birthday Looking forward to Jesus' birthday	Waiting Advent a time to look forward to Christmas	Preparations Advent; preparing to celebrate Christmas	Visitors Advent: waiting for the coming of Jesus	Gift God's gift of love & friendship in Jesus	Hope Advent; waiting in joyful hope for Jesus; the promised one	Expectations Jesus born to show God to the world

Key dates for your diaries

Please look at the yearly planner which accompanies your child's newsletter; in this document you will find all the key religious dates and activities for Autumn Term. In the immediate future, we would like to warmly invite you to church on Thursday 13th September at 9.30am where we will celebrate mass to welcome the new school year.

RE & Catholic Life Developments 2018-2019

During the season of Advent we will be inviting parents to come into school to share class collective worships and. The dates and times for these can be found in the yearly planner.

Prayers For My Family

Today you will also have received a 'Prayers For My Family' prayer card that has kindly been shared with the school by Fr Gus. This contains some beautiful prayers to share with your children and family at home.

Charities We Are Supporting This Term

We support a number of charities during the academic year, and for Autumn Term, we will be supporting the St Wilfrid's Centre, and Cafod. On 5th October we would like to invite you to bring a tin of food which will be donated to St Wilfrid's Centre in support of the Cafod Fast Day.

