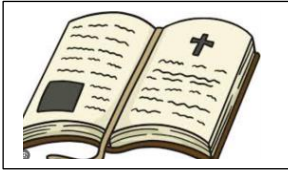




Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

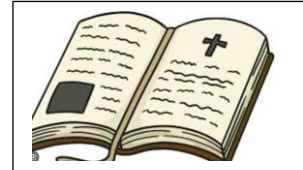
Religious Education Newsletter

Summer Term 2026 – Summer 2



CLASSROOM RE:

Our RE topic for Summer 1 is Branch Six: Dialogue and Encounter



In this branch, pupils will learn how Christians work together with people of different religious convictions and all people of goodwill towards the common good, respecting the dignity of all humanity. They will also encounter other pathways of belief drawing on the teaching of the Church about intercultural dialogue

EYFS: The children will hear about the friends of Jesus such as St Peter and St Paul (whilst learning about their feast day in June). They will also listen to a member of the local community and hear about why their faith is so important to them.

Year 1: Pupils explore the Catholic identity of their school as a foundation for dialogue with others. Through visits to the local parish, meeting Christians, and learning about the church building and its symbols, they discover how Catholics live and celebrate their faith. They learn that the Church is a global family, enriched by diverse traditions such as the Syro-Malabar and Ukrainian Catholic Churches. Pupils reflect on the cross as a symbol of belief in Jesus and begin to understand the Sign of the Cross as a simple yet powerful prayer of faith in the Trinity. In the encounter dimension, pupils are introduced to Judaism through the core belief in one God and the importance of the Torah. They learn that the Torah's teachings shape Jewish life and culture, and that it is treated with great care and respect. Pupils explore Jewish practices such as Shabbat and listen to Torah chanting, gaining an authentic insight into the faith. Through this, they grow in understanding of others and learn how shared values can build a culture of kindness and dialogue.

Year 2: This branch holds together two related but distinct strands. In the Dialogue strand, pupils reflect on a demanding truth at the heart of Christian faith: that love of God is shown through love of other people. They encounter the Parable of the Good Samaritan, through which Jesus redefines 'neighbour' as anyone in need, crossing all boundaries of religion, culture and race. Inspired by Pope Francis' Fratelli Tutti, pupils explore how love can rebuild communities, and they discover how Christians from different churches collaborate locally and globally in service of others. In the Encounter strand, pupils deepen their understanding of Judaism by exploring how Torah teachings shape everyday Jewish life: keeping the Sabbath (Shabbat), the role of the synagogue, and the remarkable care given to handwritten Torah scrolls by a trained scribe (sofer). Pupils begin to recognise Hebrew writing and ask wondering questions about Jewish faith and practice.

Year 3: In this branch pupils will explore the Jewish festival of Passover, learning how it commemorates the liberation of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt and continues to be celebrated by Jewish families today through the Seder meal and symbolic foods such as unleavened bread. They will consider how this festival provides important context for Christians in understanding the Last Supper as a Passover meal in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Pupils will make simple connections between Passover, the Last Supper and the Eucharist, recognising how Christians understand Jesus as the Paschal Lamb whose death and resurrection bring freedom from sin and establish a new covenant with God. The branch also includes an encounter with Islam, where pupils explore aspects of Muslim belief and practice, such as the Five Pillars, and learn how Muslims live out their faith in daily life while appreciating the rich cultural traditions of Islam.

Year 4: In this branch pupils will explore the life and mission of St Paul as a key figure in the early Church, learning about his encounter with Christ, his missionary journeys and the Christian communities he established across the Mediterranean. They will encounter some of Paul's writings and consider his commitment to proclaiming the Gospel and promoting unity within the Church (CCC 820), recognising him as an early example of dialogue across cultures and communities. Pupils will also explore the universal nature of the Catholic Church and the diversity of Christian communities, beginning with their local context and considering how Christians work together for the common good. Opportunities may include learning about other Christian denominations and celebrating the feast of St Peter and St Paul. The branch concludes with an encounter with the Five Pillars of Islam, introducing pupils to key practices within the Muslim faith.



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Year 5: In this branch pupils will explore how Christians understand the Bible as a collection of inspired writings, recognising that it contains different books, authors and literary forms gathered over time. They will learn that the Church guides Christians in interpreting Scripture and helps them encounter its deeper meaning. Pupils will consider the relationship between the Old and New Testaments, recognising that Christians read the Old Testament in the light of Christ while respecting that these texts are also sacred within Judaism and understood differently. In the encounter dimension, pupils will deepen their understanding of Judaism by exploring the importance of Hebrew, the Torah, and key elements of Jewish prayer and practice, including the Shema and the mezuzah.

Year 6: In this branch pupils will explore what dialogue looks like in action by considering how people of faith live as good neighbours, work together for justice and the common good, and share aspects of their spiritual lives. Through examples from the lives of individuals and organisations committed to peace, justice and interreligious dialogue, pupils will reflect on how Christians are called to uphold the dignity of all people and contribute to their local communities. They will also consider the idea of 'worldview', recognising that people's beliefs and values shape how they understand the world. In the encounter dimension, pupils will study one Dharmic faith pathway, Hinduism, learning about religious life within the context of contemporary Britain.

PRAYER AND LITURGY

(parents/carers welcome)



- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Years 5 and 6 (Wednesday 3rd June, 10:00am, Parish Church)
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Year 4 (Thursday 4th June, 10:00am, Parish Church)
- Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass – KS2 (Friday 12th June, 10:00am, Parish Church)
- Feast of the Sacred Heart Liturgy – Reception and KS1 (Friday 12th June, 11:30am, Top Hall)
- Year 5 Mass (Wednesday 24th June, 9:15am, SMMA Hall)
- Feast of St Peter and St Paul Mass – KS2 (Monday 29th June, 10:00am, Parish Church)
- Feast of St Peter and St Paul Liturgy – Reception and KS1 (Monday 29th June, 11:30am, Top Hall)
- Year 6 Leavers' Mass (Thursday 16th July, 10:00am, Parish Church)

CATHOLIC LIFE AND MISSION

The Chaplaincy Team will be visiting a 'Cancer Research UK' charity shop to donate items as part of their charity work for their chosen national charity.

Each year group will be completing their final 'action focus' linked to Catholic Social Teaching.

Our Summer RE Homework project will be based on Catholic Social Teaching. It will go out on Friday 12th June and be due back in on Friday 26th June.

