**Our Lady and St Edward’s**

**Catholic Primary School**

**RE Curriculum**

**Information for Parents**

**Summer Term 1**



Dear Parents,

As we return to school the Church is still celebrating Easter – Jesus risen from the dead. This celebration goes on until the great feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. At Pentecost we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit who empowers and enables us to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Christians believe that it is the Holy Spirit who gives life to the Church. The symbols of wind or breath and fire speak of this life-giving and creative energy present in everything we do, empowering us to the live the life Jesus calls us to. During this half-term the Church dedicates the month of May to Mary, Jesus’ mother. It would be useful to reflect on the special relationship between the Holy Spirit and Mary through reading Luke’s account of Mary’s role in the Nativity of Jesus and by reflecting on Mary’s role as the first believer – the first disciple – of Jesus.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E. McGunigall, Headteacher

**Foundation 2: ‘New Life’**

This half term, the children in the Reception classes will be learning about new life. They will learn about the story of the empty tomb, and learn that Jesus appeared to his disciples. The children will begin to understand the special gift of joy and peace that Jesus gave to his friends (John 20: 19-21) and can give to us as well. They will hear the story of Jesus going back to his Father and learn that one day we shall hopefully go there too.

**At Home**

You could help your children by:

* Planting an Easter garden.
* Looking for signs of new life.
* Practise the Sign of the Cross, ‘Our Father’ & ‘Hail Mary’.
* Encouraging them to write their own prayers.

**Year 1: ‘The Resurrection’**

Year 1 will learn that Jesus appeared to his disciples in the Upper Room and will think about the times when they have experienced great joy and surprise. They will learn that Jesus helped his disciples to understand that he was risen from the dead and was with them (John 21: 9-14) and this made them very happy. They will learn that when Thomas heard that Jesus was alive he did not believe it. They will also become aware that sometimes, like Thomas, we don’t understand what is happening.

**At home**

You could help your children by:

* Reading stories from the Bible about Easter and Pentecost.

**Year 2: ‘Eastertide’**

Year 2 will learn that Jesus rose from the dead and still lives with us. They will learn that Jesus told his disciples that he would go back to Heaven but promised that the Holy Spirit would come. They will learn that Jesus ascended into Heaven and promised to return again and that this gives us hope. They will also know the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the apostles at Pentecost and know that the Holy Spirit is promised to us.

**At Home**

You could help your children by:

* Talking about how the Holy Spirit helps us.
* Having a close look at the Paschal (Easter) Candle when at Mass.

**Year 3: ‘Celebrating Easter and Pentecost’**

Year 3 will learn that God the Father raised Jesus from the dead on Easter Sunday. They will learn that because Jesus rose from the dead we too will rise from the dead. They will hear the story of the appearance of Jesus on the road to Emmaus and to Thomas. They will also hear and reflect on the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

**At Home**

You could help your children by:

* Talking to them about how the Church celebrates the resurrection.
* Reading the story of Pentecost with them.
* Discussing with them what they would have felt if they were one of the Disciples.

**Year 4: ‘The Early Christians’**

Year 4 will learn that Peter was chosen by Jesus to play a special role in the Church and that Jesus gave his followers a mission – to spread the Good News to others. They will learn that Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to help his followers and that Pentecost was the beginning of the Church. They will learn about the missions of Peter and Paul and about Stephen the first martyr of the Christian faith.

**At Home**

You could help your children by:

* Discussing with them the life of St Peter and that he was the first Pope.
* Reading the missionary journeys of St Paul in Acts of the Apostles (Ch 16 ff)
* Visiting [www.tere.org/interactive\_site/KS2link](http://www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link) and complete activities.

**Year 5: ‘Life in the Risen Jesus’**

Year 5 will learn the story of the appearance of Jesus to Mary of Magdala and learn that the risen Jesus is present among us in different ways. They will learn about Jesus’ teaching on, and example of, prayer and have a better understanding of the Lord’s Prayer. They will learn that we can pray in different ways.

**At Home**

You could help your children by:

* Reading and discussing the story of Mary of Magdala.
* Talking with them about prayer.
* Making time for prayer together.

**Year 6: ‘The Transforming Spirit**

The children will learn how the apostles changed when they received the Holy Spirit. They will reflect on the power of the Holy Spirit working in the apostles and think about how the Holy Spirit can help them today. They will learn about the character of the first Christian community and read about the special role that Peter and Paul played in spreading the Good News.

**At Home**

You could help your children by:

* Visiting [www.tere.org/interactive\_site/KS2link](http://www.tere.org/interactive_site/KS2link) and completing activities.
* Reading the story of Pentecost with them and discussing how the apostles changed.
* Discussing what they have learned about the Holy Spirit and how they can apply this to life.