



Friday 5th October 2023

Religious Education at St. Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing as we would like to share and remind you of the excellent teaching and learning practice that is going on in our school in Religious Education.

If you have any questions or any positive feedback and that you would like us to know, please pass them onto your class Parent Forum Representative, send a message to our admin email address or speak directly with the Religious Education subject leader, Mrs Faulkner.

What Religious Education teaching and learning looks like at St. Augustine's Catholic Primary School:

Religious Education is taught for two and a half hours every week to comply with the expected 10% of teaching time being dedicated to the teaching of R.E. as part of the Bishops Religious Education Directory (RED) document. This will form three lessons either three quarters of an hour each or two one hour lessons and one half an hour lesson. These lessons are structured in the following way: one lesson is expected to give the children an opportunity for extended writing (writing a large amount at length), one lesson is a creative lesson (this will be cross-curricular with another subject like art, music, drama etc.) and one lesson is for RSE (Relationships Education).

Children's lessons are always challenging through the deep thought-provoking questions that are planned and that are unplanned and come up during the lesson naturally. The lessons are always exciting as they are planned by the class teacher with the children's interests in mind. This is by ensuring lessons have at least one cross-curricular link with other subjects a week so they are able to demonstrate their skills, knowledge and understanding in a variety of ways such as in Art, drama and other creative activities. Lessons are challenging because children are provided with three different progressive levels of tasks to complete. There are also challenge tasks set for those moving into the greater depth level.

Children are given homework once or twice term. This can be in the form of a competition as well as work set to enhance the children's work from that week or that half term's topic. When possible, we try to set Religious Education homework on the same theme so all the children are completing the same task and so can be completed as a family. This also shows the progression of outcomes through each year group. Homework is not set more often having listened to parent views from previous Parent Forum meetings.

We inform parents during each of the parent consultations about the progress of their child/ren in Religious Education which include targets to work on at home. Detailed information about each child's progress is also given in their end of year report. This informs you if you child/ren are working towards, working at or working above age-related expectations. Any concerns a parent may have about their child's progress in Religious Education can also be discussed with the class teacher at any point during the year.

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs G Napier

*'WE COME TO SCHOOL TO LIVE AND LEARN HAPPILY TOGETHER BY LOVING OURSELVES AND EACH OTHER
AS JESUS TEACHES US'*



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

We keep you informed about what is taught in Religious Education primarily through the termly overview that is provided for each half term. This can also be found on our school website. We are also attaching this half term's information about the learning statements and outcomes that your children will be working towards in their lessons as well as some key information that can be discussed at home.

What Catholic Life looks like at St. Augustine's Catholic Primary School:

Children are given daily opportunities where they are able to develop their beliefs, faith and ideas and become more conscious of their inner spirit. They are encouraged to think about the Common Good. What is the Common Good? The Common Good is working towards equality for all and the reasons why we behave and act following in the footsteps of Jesus because of our faith. Children actively participate in the class Prayer and Worship reflection sessions led by the Chaplaincy Team every Thursday and are given the chance to reflect upon the meaning of the Gospel and the Wednesday Word. This is also developed throughout RE lessons.

The children pray in the morning, before lunch and at the end of the day using our whole school prayers which are on our school website. We also pray every day during our assemblies. Children are actively encouraged to bring in their own prayers which are placed into our prayer bowls and used during the day as well as spontaneous prayer.

Children are taught about morals and how to uphold them which is a daily expectation. Children, from the day they enter Nursery, are immersed in Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) to ensure that they are able to follow rules and have good behaviour. This ensures the children are following our golden rule: "Treat others the way you would like to be treated." This is at the heart of our everyday teaching and learning. The children also have a weekly wondering question in which they are asked how they will live out the Gospel reading and the Wednesday word that week.

Father Julian, our parish priest, visits each class once a term. The class teacher sends him a visit form, in which they list what they have been teaching, a learning objective for the visit, questions they would like him to focus on; their learning is followed up with further work in their books based on his visit. Father Julian interviewed the new Chaplaincy Team in July and commissioned them during our whole school Mass in September. All classes in KS2 attend Mass in Church every Wednesday morning on a rota basis. Reconciliation for Years Four to Six are also planned for the Spring Term. Father Julian is our Religious Education and RSE Subject Link Governor and so he meets with the Religious Education subject leader, Mrs Faulkner, once a term to evaluate the teaching, learning and leadership of Religious Education and RSE provision within the school. He is part of the Local Governing Body governor meetings and the Education Governor meetings which take place each term.

All key Mass dates are celebrated to which children from Reception class upwards attend and the younger year groups provide their own shorter celebration in class. Reconciliation is provided by our Parish Priest Father Julian in School in the library.

The children have plenty of events throughout the year in which they raise money working towards the Common Good and provide donations such as Children in Need, the Catholic Children's Society, Cafod Harvest Festival, Remembrance Day, McMillan Cancer and those organised by SAPTA.



www.stfrancistrust.net



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We actively promote a strong partnership and communication so we work together as a school community. Communication is provided in our school newsletters and emails. Our wonderful Parent Forum representatives keep you updated through your year group What's app as well as meeting with Mrs Napier and Mrs Faulkner every half term. The class teachers post reminders on Microsoft Teams. Parent home school learning partnership workshops are provided each half term. Parents are able to attend all school assemblies and liturgies such as class assemblies on a Wednesday once a year, KS2 Mass in church on a Wednesday on rota, Holy Communion celebrations, Tie Ceremony, EYFS and KS1 Nativities, Years 3 and 4 Easter Production, Years 5 and 6 end of Year Production and other key Masses as a whole school in Church.

We would actively encourage you to discuss your children's Religious Education learning at home. Please find attached an overview of this half term's learning across the school. We hope this information gives you a well-rounded picture of Religious Education at St. Augustine's.

Yours sincerely

Mrs G Napier
Headteacher

