

Dear Parents and Carers,

Spring Term Information about Religious Education and the Catholic Life of the School

This letter contains some information about the work your child will be doing in Religious Education in the Spring term so that you can support them in this important area of learning.

The term begins full of the joy of the Christmas season which ends at the celebration of the Baptism of Jesus on Monday 8th January.

We then move into the liturgical season of Ordinary Time until February half term, when we begin the season of Lent on Wednesday 14th February.



St Monica pray for us.

First, some dates for your diary that will give you a flavour of the Catholic Life of the School this term, and special dates for the Church's calendar in italics:

<i>Sunday 7th January</i>	<i>Feast of the Epiphany (6th Jan) celebrated in church</i>
<i>Monday 8th January</i>	<i>The Baptism of the Lord (Christmas season ends today)</i>
Friday 2 nd February	Mission Together Sponsored Walk charity fundraising
Friday 2 nd February	Swifts class (Y5) class assembly
<i>Friday 2nd February</i>	<i>Feast of the Presentation of the Lord</i>
Friday 9 th February	Reception Class Assembly

HALF TERM 12th – 18th February 14th February Ash Wednesday – the beginning of the season of Lent

Tuesday 20th February	Year 4 Parents Reconciliation Meeting – 6pm
Friday 23 rd February	<i>Family Fast Day – Special Day of Prayer for the needy and hungry of the world</i>
Sunday 25th February	Year 4 Reconciliation Enrolment Mass – 10am
Wednesday 28th February	Year 3 Parents First Eucharist Meeting – 3.15pm
Thursday 29th February	MISSION DAY – Jesus and his followers. Assembly at 2.30pm
Friday 1 st March	Year 1 & 2 Class Assembly
Sunday 3rd March	Year 3 First Eucharist Enrolment Mass – 10am
Tuesday 5 th March	Whole school Mass in church for our patron St Monica – 10am
<i>Sunday 10th March</i>	<i>Mothering Sunday</i>
<i>Tuesday 19th March</i>	<i>Solemnity of St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
<i>Sunday 24th March</i>	<i>Palm Sunday – the start of HOLY WEEK</i>
Tuesday 26th March	Year 3 and 4 Easter Passion Play 6pm
Tuesday 26 th March	Stations of the Cross – classes visiting church through the morning
<i>Thursday 28th March</i>	<i>Maundy Thursday – school assembly & last day of term</i>
<i>Friday 29th March</i>	<i>Good Friday</i>
<i>Sunday 31st March</i>	<i>Easter Sunday</i>

During the term we continue to reflect on the weekly gospel in our Gospel Assemblies, and have time to consider our school mission and 'ST MONICA' aims.

We have also introduced a school prayer, written with the contributions from our Year 5 and 6 pupils. All classes pray this together every morning:

*As we gather here today,
Keep us safe in every way.
Let love of learning fill our mind,
Our hearts and hands be always kind.
Courage, hope, faith and joy we value
Working together to be more like you.
Help and guide us to make good choices,
And may we speak your word with true brave voices. Amen*

Please find below the Religious Education programme topics and key objectives from The Way, The Truth and The Life for the Spring term.

Best wishes, Mrs Jessica Pearson

Spring Half Term 1	
EYFS: Getting to Know Jesus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I know that Jesus loves each one of us. • I can think of ways I can show my love for Jesus. • I can talk about stories of Jesus curing people who were ill. • I can think of ways I can show my love for people who are ill. • I can talk about the story of the wedding at Cana.
Y1: Families and Celebrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can recognise the story of the Presentation in the Temple as a religious story. • I can recognise some of the signs and symbols of Baptism. • I can recognise that Christians go to Church. • I can recognise some Church celebrations. • I can talk about my experience and feelings about my family and about celebrations in Church. • I can say what I wonder about God and creation.
Y2: The Good News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can retell stories such as Jairus' Daughter. • I can use religious words to describe some of the signs and symbols of Lent. • I can describe some ways people act in Lent. • I can ask and respond to questions about the feelings of Jesus and the Ten Lepers. • I can ask some questions which Jairus may have asked Jesus.
Y3: Jesus the Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can make links between the parables and the teaching of Jesus. • I can give reasons why light and dark are used as Christian symbols. • I can give reasons from the parables for Christian actions. • I can make links between the feelings of Simeon and his behaviour. • I can compare ideas about puzzling questions.
Y4 Jesus, the Saviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can make links between a story during Holy Week and beliefs about Jesus. • I can tell you why some of the symbols of Holy Week are used. • I can give reasons why Christians behave the way they do in Lent. • I can show how the feelings and beliefs of different people affected what they

Address: St Monica's Catholic Primary School, St Monica's Close,
Appleton, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 3AW ☎ 01925 267609

✉ stmonicas_primary@sch.warrington.gov.uk Website: www.stmonicasprimary.co.uk



	<p>thought about Jesus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can compare my ideas about some questions that are difficult to answer.
Y5: Inspirational People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can make links between the Beatitudes and Christian belief. I can give reasons for certain actions by inspirational people. I can make links to show how the beatitudes affect behaviour.
Y6: Exploring the Mass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can describe and show I understand the Passover, Last Supper and the Eucharist, making links between them. I can show I understand different parts of the Mass. I can show how a belief in the Eucharist shapes the life of a Catholic. I can show how the actions of Christians are informed by the beliefs about the importance of the Eucharist. I can talk about what it means to say that Jesus is the bread of life.
Spring half term 2	
Early Years Sorrow and Joy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can ask Jesus to help us to be kind to each other. I know we sometimes forget to be kind. I know Jesus forgave those who hurt him and that we can do the same.
Y1 Following Jesus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can recognise some of these as religious stories: the catch of fish, the Good Samaritan, Easter. I can recognise some of the signs and symbols of Lent and Holy Week. I can recognise that Christians go to Church during Holy Week. I can talk about my feelings about my friends. I can say what I wonder about Jesus' friends and about His journey to Jerusalem.
Y2 The Mass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can retell the story of the Last Supper. I can describe some of the signs and symbols of the Mass. I can explain why Catholics go to Mass on Sunday. I can ask and respond to questions about what it feels like to give and receive. I can ask some questions about the Mass.
Y3 Celebrating the Mass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can retell the story of the Last Supper. I can use religious words to describe some actions and symbols of the Mass. I can describe some ways Christians act out the command at the end of Mass. I can ask and respond to questions about what I am thankful for. I can ask questions about what I wonder about the Mass.
Y4: Sacrament of Reconciliation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can retell the stories of Zacchaeus, the Lost Sheep or the Lost Son. I can use religious words to describe some actions and symbols of Lent. I can describe some ways Catholic act after receiving, the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I can ask and respond to questions about the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I know that some questions are hard to answer.
Y5 Reconciliation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can make links between the story of the Lost Son and beliefs about reconciliation. I can give reasons for some of the actions and symbols of reconciliation. I can give reasons for certain actions of the characters in the story of the Lost Son. I can make links to show how forgiveness and reconciliation affect my behaviour.
Y6 Jesus, the Messiah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can describe and show I understand the events of Holy Week and the way people treated Jesus making links between them. I can show I understand what happens in church on Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Easter Sunday. I can show how belief about serving others shapes the life of a Christian. I can discuss and write about whether miracles happen or not in light of what I have learnt.

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