

ST. OSWALD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - SPRING TERM 2017
COME AND SEE - AT HOME

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the three themes of Local Church (Community), Eucharist (Relating) and Lent/Easter (Giving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics.

LOCAL CHURCH - COMMUNITY

(5/1/17 - 27/1/17)

Early Years	CELEBRATING - People celebrate in Church
Year 1	SPECIAL PEOPLE - People in the parish family
Year 2	BOOKS - The books used in Church
Year 3	JOURNEYS - Christian family's journey with Christ
Year 4	COMMUNITY - Life in the local Christian community and ministries in the parish
Year 5	MISSION - Continuing Jesus' mission in diocese (ecumenism)
Year 6	SOURCES - The Bible, the special book for the Church

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Explore the Diocesan website, looking at the number of churches, and finding out about our bishop. Read Bible stories together or encourage older children to read a child's Bible.

EUCHARIST - RELATING

(30/1/17 - 3/3/17)

Early Years	GATHERING - Parish family gathers to celebrate Eucharist
Year 1	MEALS - Mass, Jesus' special meal
Year 2	THANKSGIVING - Mass, a special time to thank God
Year 3	LISTENING & SHARING - Jesus gives himself to us
Year 4	GIVING & RECEIVING - Living in communion
Year 5	MEMORIAL SACRIFICE - Eucharist as the living Memorial of Christ's sacrifice
Year 6	UNITY - Eucharist enabling people to live in communion

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Look through the family photograph album to help the children remember important events and special people in their lives. Discuss how we come together for special celebrations.

LENT/EASTER - GIVING

(6/3/17 - 12/4/17)

Early Year	GROWING - Looking forward to Easter
Year 1	CHANGE - Lent: a time for change
Year 2	OPPORTUNITIES - Lent: an opportunity to start anew
Year 3	GIVING ALL - Lent: remembering Jesus' total giving
Year 4	SELF DISCIPLINE - Celebrating growth to new life
Year 5	SACRIFICE - Lent: a time of aligning with the sacrifice made by Jesus
Year 6	DEATH & NEW LIFE - Celebrating Jesus' death and resurrection

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

As a family talk about how you are going to practice self-control and self-giving for the rest of the season of Lent. You may decide to give up biscuits or cakes and donate the money to a charity. If you have an older child provide him/her with an opportunity to take part in The Stations of the Cross. Ask your child/ren how the school is focusing on Lent and self-giving.

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
1 January

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
8 January

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
9 January

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
2 February

ST DAVID, BISHOP, PATRON OF WALES
28 February

ASH WEDNESDAY
1 March

ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
20 March

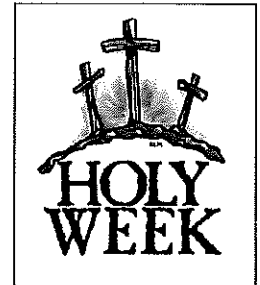
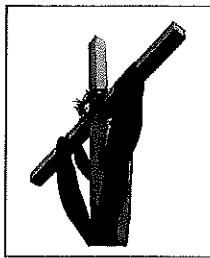
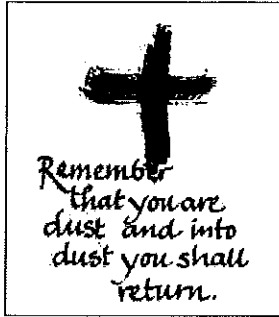
THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
25 March

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
9 April

MAUNDY THURSDAY
13 April

GOOD FRIDAY
14 April

EASTER SUNDAY
16 April



Sacramental Preparation

This term, the children in our Year 4 class, will begin their preparations for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist.

These preparations will consist of several meetings with Fr Dave, Mrs Orwin and Miss Morris, for both parents and children, Preparation Masses and different activities to complete, which will all help them in their understanding, of their journey of faith.

Dates of the meetings were sent out just before the Christmas holidays. If should need a further copy, please see Mrs Orwin.

We ask that you keep these children and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they make their journey of faith together.



Lent

During the time of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, as a school we do various things, which help us to think of others and the sacrifice Jesus made for us.

Mission Together is a charity for 'Children helping Children'. For the last three years we have raised funds for children around the world, by having a 'Day of Many Colours' later in the year, each colour representing a different continent. During Lent, each child will take home a small red 'Missio' box, to put in what ever coins they can. The boxes are then returned after Easter and the money is collected and sent. This year the money raised will go to Kenya.

We also support Good Shepherd for Nugent Care, which is a more local charity, within the archdiocese. The children make and sell things, create games and competitions and we have an own clothes day. The children from our Year 5 class, will present the money raised at a special Mass in Liverpool Cathedral, with other schools who have raised money.

Our Prayers Bags, will change again from the green 'Ordinary Time' prayer bags, to purple 'Lenten Bags'.

The Lenten bags will go home with each night with a different child/family, giving them an opportunity to spend some prayerful, reflective time with their families during this time leading up to Easter. The children really enjoy putting their prayers, pictures and photographs into their special class prayer book and reading stories and prayers provided in the bags.

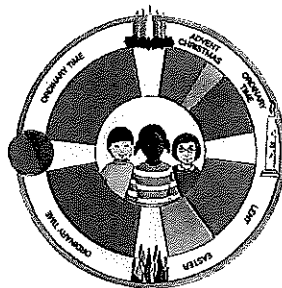


*St Oswald,
King & Martyr*



Born c 605 AD
King of Northumbria
635 - 642 AD
Died 5th August 642

*Renowned as a diplomat,
a unifier, and a generous and humble king.*



Mini Vinnies

Last term our Year 6, 'Mini Vinnies' group (based on St. Vincent de Paul) got underway. They were visited by a volunteer SVP member Vincent Gallagher and were given an insight into the work they would be undertaking.

The group have elected a Chair person – Mary Sixsmith and a Vice Chair Person to support her - Ellis Baldwin. There were also other elected positions, in which the children have key roles and responsibilities, under the supervision of Mrs Orwin.

This term their resources have arrived and the children will be easily identified around the school, as they will be wearing their 'Mini Vinnie' badges.

The children were very busy organising charity works, such as Operation Christmas – which saw 96 shoe boxes, filled with gifts for children of all ages, to travel near and far, to children less fortunate than ourselves. They also organised collections for the local foodbank, where each child in the school brought in one item each Monday for two weeks. The group promoted, collected and sorted the items, which were gratefully received by the foodbank and the people who very much need their support.



They have already decided that they would like to raise £350, to let sewing machines to a village in India for three years, so that they can become self-sufficient in raising funds to buy their own machines, before the sewing machines will go on to help in another village.

We look forward to what the Mini Vinnies will be organising this term!

ST OSWALD, KING & MARTYR

Almighty and merciful God,
who so kindled the faith of St Oswald with your Spirit
that he set up the sign of the Cross in his kingdom
and turned his people to the light of Christ:
grant that we, being fired by the same Spirit,
may always bear our cross before the world
and be found faithful servants of the Gospel.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

St Oswald, King & Martyr

Pray for us

Bookmarks with a picture of St Oswald, with this prayer on the back, have been printed by Fr Dave, for the parish and each child in the school. Please say this prayer to our patron saint with your child and help them to learn it.

Written by the RE Team: Mrs Orwin & Miss Morris

