

Seasonal Overview

The Season of Creation

About this Season:

The Season of Creation is a global ecumenical celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home, starting each year on 1 September and finishing on the feast of St Francis, 4 October.

The World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, celebrated on 1 September, kicks off the Season of Creation, a time of sustained prayer and action which lasts a month and four days. During this season we are encouraged to pray and engage in community events in order to deepen our relationship with God, our neighbour and the earth we share, being ever more attentive to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

Theme: Caring for our Common Home

What will classrooms look and feel like?

- There will be live plants or flowers in every classroom
- There will be more opportunities for outdoor prayer and learning
- Children will be ensuring they turn off the lights, recycle and care for our common home
- Homework will link to how we can care for our common home

What will school look and feel like?

- Pupils will be caring for our common home
- There will be opportunities for spontaneous prayer for creation
- There will be plants and flowers around school
- There will be a rota for litter picking around school

What will happen and why?

5th and 6th September- Creating Tomorrow and Helping Today retreat days to relaunch the mission statement

19th September- Season of creation retreat day (Eco- committee)

1st October- Trust Synod Event

4th October- CAFOD Family Fast Day (Feast Day of St Francis)

Come and See Assembly years 3 and 4 (Domestic Church)

Art competition- Get Creative for Climate Change

Pupil Voice Groups:

Eco- committee- 19th September- Season of creation Retreat Day

Parish, community and Hub links:

Season of Creation windows in church

Litter picking in the local area

Seasonal Overview Advent

About this Season:

Advent is observed with the lighting of advent candles, display of wreaths and special ceremonies. Advent also anticipates the coming again to earth of Jesus Christ.

Advent (meaning 'to come' in Latin) is the period before Christmas when Christians prepare for and celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Christ. It is an ancient tradition that dates from the first century after the birth of Christ.

Advent as a religious period actually begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. This means the date can vary depending on the year.

Theme: Prepare the Way

What will classrooms look and feel like?

- Moments for silence and reflection
- Opportunities for spontaneous prayer linked to preparing ourselves for Jesus
- Prayer journaling

What will school look and feel like?

- Advent Wreath and a central focal point
- Prayer spaces around school which allow the children to reflect how they are preparing themselves for Jesus
- Candles used to show Jesus is the light in the darkness
- Jesse Tree shared with the children

What will happen and why?

2nd December- Advent Day of prayer which will include a change in the classroom decoration. Children will make Advent Wreaths and change the liturgical colour to purple.

10th December and 12th December- Years 1, 2 and 3 will share the Nativity with the local community

11th December- Christingle Service. We use the candles as a symbol of Christ and bringing hope to people living in darkness.

18th December- EYFS share Christmas songs with the local community within a prayer service

20th December- Years 4-6 Carol Service with the local community

Children will take home the travelling nativity so that they can reflect on the Season of Advent at home.

Year 3 will visit the local care home to sing songs from the Nativity performance

Children will make Christmas cards to send to other schools in the hub, the parish and the local community (including care home)
DT competition- Peace and Preparation

Pupil Voice Groups:

OPAL/ active group- 2nd December- Advent Day of Prayer (Making time for prayer)

Parish, community and Hub links:

Advent windows in church

Christmas cards to send to other schools in the hub, the parish and the local community (including care home)

Reverse Advent Calendar

Seasonal Overview Lent

About this Season:

Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully.

Theme: Lent a Hand

What will classrooms look and feel like?

- Opportunities for children to say sorry
- Opportunities for children to give up their time to support others

What will school look and feel like?

- Prayer spaces around school which allow the children to say sorry
- Opportunities for children to help and give extra to those in need
- Prayer Journaling

What will happen and why?

6th March- Ash Wednesday Retreat Day (Agents for Change)

14th March CAFOD Family fast day

14th March RE Gallery

19th March- St Joseph's Day of prayer (How Joseph helped others)

Big Lent Walk: 11th March Year 1 and 2, 18th March Year 3 and 4, 25th March Year 5 and 6, 1st April EYFS

4th April- Easter Presentation

DT competition- Design a product that would help someone in need.

Children take home the travelling crucifix and have a time of reflection during Lent.

Pupil Voice Groups:

Agents for Change- 16th March- Ash Wednesday Retreat Day

Parish, community and Hub links:

Lent a hand in the local community (litter picking, reading to toddlers at the nursery)

Food bank collections

Seasonal Overview Lent

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Seasonal Overview
Eastertide

About this Season:

Easter time is the period of 50 days, spanning from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday. It is celebrated as a single joyful feast, called the "great Lord's Day". Each Sunday of the season is treated as a Sunday of Easter.

Theme: Celebrate

What will classrooms look and feel like?

- Bright, joyful prayer areas and displays
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What will school look and feel like?

- Celebrations in COTW, Mass and Prayer
- Bright displays and

What will happen and why?

8th May- Easter Celebration to keep the season of Easter alive

6th June- Come and See Assembly EYFS, year 1 and 2

Make Easter Cards

Art competition- Easter Celebration

Pupil Voice Groups:

Agents for Change- 16th March- Ash Wednesday Retreat Day

Parish, community and Hub links:

Sent Easter cards to the local community (including care homes) and Parish

Seasonal Overview
Ordinary Time

About this Season:

Ordinary Time is a period in the Catholic Church's liturgical year that falls outside of the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. It's divided into two sections:

After Christmas- A period of 4-8 weeks that begins on the Monday after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and ends on Ash Wednesday

After Easter- A period that begins on the Monday after Pentecost Sunday and ends on the First Sunday of Advent

Technically, Ordinary Time has two parts, but it remains one season. The first part begins right after the feast of the Epiphany and runs until Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday (when Lent begins). The second part begins the Monday after Pentecost and runs until the First Sunday of Advent.

Theme: Growing in our faith and love of God.

What will classrooms look and feel like?

- There will be live plants to symbolise how we are growing in faith during this season
- Spontaneous prayer will be an opportunity to grow in our faith
- Prayer journaling will be a regular activity
- Green prayer cloths
- Mirrors to reflect on how we are all created in the image and likeness of God
- Catholic Social Teaching Principles taught across the curriculum and linked to events

What will school look and feel like?

- There will be mirrors to promote how we are made in the image and likeness of God
- There will be opportunities for spontaneous prayer around school
- There will be plants and flowers around school
- Promotion of CST and how we are responsible global citizens and all part of God's family

What will happen and why?

10th October World Porridge Day (charitable collection)

14th October Day of the Rosary (learning more about our faith and growing in love for God inspired by Mary)

Harvest Festival 16th October 2.45pm (charitable collection and thanks giving celebration to God)

4th November All Souls Day - Visit Graveyard (growing in faith)
19th November - Trust Synod Event (one church family, united in faith)
21st November Nano Nagle
RE Gallery 22nd November 2.45pm
Created and loved by God week 13th January (self worth, celebration of diversity)
Vocations 16th January
Tuesday 14th January - Religious Roadshow
Friday 24th January - Day of Prayer for Jubilee Launch Pilgrims of Hope (How we can make a better world. Reconnect with each other, God and the world)
Candlemas 3rd February - Bless the candles - Jesus is the light of the world Sr ceremony
11th February Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes
Home Day of Prayer (World Refugee Day) 20th June
10th July RE Gallery EYFS-Y5 2.45pm
Celebration event for the year of the Jubilee Fri 18th July
Summer litany - thank you God Connecting with the world

Pupil Voice Groups:

Wellbeing Champions Pupil Voice Group-(Mental Health Week 3rd to 9th Feb 2024) (Jubilee Day of Prayer)

iVenger-(Ascension Day of Prayer 23rd May)

Health and Safety-(Day of Prayer Homes 20th June)

Parish, community and Hub links:

Prayer space and windows in church

Inviting hub and community to days of prayer

Working with the parish and local schools for harvest collection for the local food bank