

## Autumn Term

### RE Overview Pre-School – Year 6



#### **Pre-School:**

Our first term begins by learning about 'Love and Service', the most important part of our school mission statement.

Then the Creation unit follows, and this is designed to nurture an understanding of the world around us. It introduces the children to God as creator of all that they see around them and to the idea of giving thanks. It helps the children understand that they, their talents and gifts are God-given. It helps them to understand that we have special signs to show we give God praise and that we can find out about God from the Bible.



Next we begin our unit on Catholic Social Teaching, an introduction to the Church's teaching on social justice. Catholic Social Teaching calls us to work for the common good, help build a just society, uphold the dignity of human life and work for justice and the dignity of all our brothers and sisters, especially those in greatest need.

Our Advent unit then follows and this is designed to introduce children to the idea of special times and seasons in the life of the Church, in particular the season of Advent, as well as learning that Sunday is a

special day and that Advent is a special time, when we get ready for the Birth of Jesus. They will consider ways in which they can get ready. The children will start to become aware that we have signs to remind us that this is a special time. The signs in this unit include candles and Advent wreaths and the colour purple.

Towards the end of term we will begin our Christmas unit, which will continue after the Christmas holidays. During the whole unit we will build on work done in Advent. It provides an opportunity for the children to explore the Christmas story and become familiar with the people involved, the location and the response to the Birth of Jesus. There are opportunities to articulate and visualise the first Christmas. All the activities will involve lots of discussion and role-play.

#### **Reception:**

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#### Year 1:



In Autumn, we begin our term by learning about Love and Service, the most important part of our school mission statement.

Our first unit is called Creation and is designed to develop children's appreciation of themselves and the world around them as part of God's creation. It should help children know that our response to His creation is to give praise. They should start to know that the church is a place of prayer and praise as well. The multi-faith element introduces the Jewish religion.

Then we begin our unit on Catholic Social Teaching, where we introduce the children to the concept of reaching out to those in need



as enshrined in Catholic Social Teaching, and standing in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Christ, particularly the poor and vulnerable, wherever they are. The unit also explores our role as stewards of God's Creation.

Our Advent unit follows and this is designed to develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of the season of Advent further. It looks at getting ready for the Birth of Jesus through the eyes of Mary and Joseph. The main focus is to identify their response to God and the qualities they demonstrated by responding to him in that way. There is also a focus on the joy of the Advent season.

Towards the end of term we will begin our Christmas unit, which will continue after the Christmas holidays. During the whole unit we will build on work done in Advent and in the previous year at Christmas. It will enable children to explore the Christmas story further and relate this story to their own birth. There is an opportunity to examine the similarities and differences. Through the eyes of the inn-keeper and the Wise Men, the reaction to the Birth of Jesus is examined. All the activities should involve lots of discussion and role-play.



## Year 2:



Our term begins with learning about Love and Service, the most important part of our school mission statement.

Our first unit is called Creation and is designed to give some insight into the stories and characters of the Old Testament. It will build on their knowledge of God as creator and start to provide an image of God wishing to protect and care for His universe. It highlights how God works through people to exercise this care and protection. The unit should also begin to highlight the importance of the Old Testament for

the Church. And why we **proclaim** it as the Word of God. The multi-faith element looks at the Jewish Festival of the Harvest.

Then we begin our unit on Catholic Social Teaching, during which we recognise the duty Jesus placed on his followers to be a light to the world and how this links to Catholic Social Teaching and Pope Francis' encyclicals Laudato Si and Fratelli Tutti. A particular emphasis is placed on the themes of Solidarity, Human Dignity and the Option for the Poor.



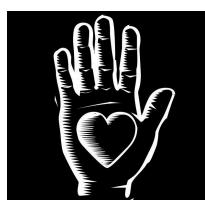
Our Advent unit follows and this is designed to deepen pupils' knowledge and understanding of the season of Advent. It looks at getting ready for the Birth of Jesus by helping us remember that God promised to send us His Son and that Jesus is the fulfilment of that promise. It introduces the idea of what a prophet does and what angels do. It helps us understand that people such as John the Baptist help



us understand the nature of this promise and provide example and inspiration of how we should respond to it. Further reinforcement is provided on the symbolism of Advent. It also develops the idea that we get ready as a parish community, as the family of God.

Towards the end of term we will begin our Christmas unit, which will continue after the Christmas holidays. During the whole unit we will deepen the children's understanding of the Annunciation and the events of the Christmas story. Emphasis is placed on the journeys associated with the Birth of Jesus, as well as highlighting what we learn about Jesus from these journeys. This work will help set the context socially, religiously and geographically for the Birth of Jesus. The question is also raised of the implications for the Church's work today. For example consideration is given to the Church's work with refugees in the light of the 'Flight to Egypt'.

### Year 3:



Our year begins by reminding ourselves about our school mission statement and the meaning behind those most important words of 'Love and Service'.

Our first unit is called Creation and is designed to give some insight into how we are called to be part of God's creation. How we are called is examined through the calling of the disciples. The main teaching of this calling is that we should respond. Through baptism we are called and our parents respond on our behalf. Baptism calls us to see the world through God's eyes and live out a new life with Him. By living out that life and responding to His call we are protecting His creation. The multi-faith element looks at initiation rites in the Hindu faith.

Then we begin our unit on Catholic Social Teaching, which aims to broaden the children's understanding of stewardship to encompass having a responsibility to take care of all God's creation, including ourselves. Within a look at Catholic Social Teaching there will be a focus on the dignity of the human person and on the preferential option for the poor.



Our Advent unit follows and this is designed to deepen pupils' knowledge and understanding of the season of Advent. The story of the Annunciation details the response of Mary to the news that she is to be the mother of Jesus. This unit will focus on Mary's acceptance of her vocation. When she declares; "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord: let it be to me according to your word" In the light of this acceptance of her vocation, we explore what we are required to do to get ready for the presence of Jesus. The parable of the sheep and goats provides a challenge to us to respond to the presence of Jesus.



Towards the end of term we will begin our Christmas unit, which will continue after the Christmas holidays. During the whole unit we will look at the Christmas story from the perspective of the shepherds. Their response invites an exploration of the language they used and also consideration of the nature of the ministry of Jesus, which was to care for and live among the poor and marginalised. The symbolism of the nativity scene is examined through the story of the first crib.

#### Year 4:



At the beginning of our school year we remind ourselves about what it means to be part of Beaulieu by revisiting our school mission statement and its most important aims, that we love and serve.

Our first unit is called Creation and is designed to give more information about the story of creation. It is designed to help children explore the concept of 'image and likeness of God'

and because God is in all of us we are called to respect and value our similarities and differences. In valuing and respecting those similarities and differences, we are called to be united together to eradicate injustice and give dignity to the human person. Through knowledge of the Jewish faith, the children will explore the skills of reverence and respect and reflect on how to apply these in their own lives of faith. Artefacts of Judaism are explored in the multi-faith element.

Then we begin our unit on Catholic Social Teaching, when we will focus on 'Solidarity and the Common Good'. Solidarity is based on the belief that we are all responsible for one another because we all belong to the human family created and loved by God. At the very heart of the idea of solidarity is the understanding that we must take care of each other and unite against anything that harms another person. At the heart of solidarity is the commitment to working for justice and peace. The vision of the church's teaching on solidarity is the Common Good brought about through each person working for that builds up the whole and not just their own immediate needs or family.



Our Advent unit follows and this is designed to deepen understanding of what God promised when He promised to send His Son. It details how Jesus is the ultimate fulfilment of this promise. The ancestry of Jesus is explored to enable a deeper understanding of the nature of the Messiah. This will link this work to what we celebrate and prepare for in Advent. The meaning behind some of the titles and names given to Jesus are explored. Titles such as Messiah and Emmanuel will provide insight into the nature of Jesus, as well as the role of the prophets, who help prepare us for the presence of Jesus.

Towards the end of term we will begin our Christmas unit, which will continue after the Christmas holidays. During the whole unit we will examine the role of the angels in the Christmas story. It provides an invitation to identify ways in which we can be messengers of the Good News today. Opportunities are provided to consider specific role models of people, who have been messengers of the Good News in the life of the Church. The feasts associated with Christmas, such as the Annunciation and the birth of John the Baptist, are also explored. Ways in which the parish community celebrates Christmas are also identified.

#### Year 5:



Autumn term begins with a reminder about what it means to love and serve as we revisit our school mission statement and explore how and why live out the aims of our school values, instilled by our founders, the sisters of the Immaculate Conception.

Our first unit is called Creation and is designed to explore how we become co-creators. The starting point for this exploration is the two creation stories in Genesis. This then requires understanding of what it means to be the People of God as expressed by St Paul and of the teachings expressed in the Beatitudes. This will help teachers to reflect with the children on their own God-given talents and living their lives in response to the teaching of Christ. The multi-faith element looks at the five pillars of Islam.

Then we begin our unit on Catholic Social Teaching and the focus for this unit is introducing the children to the concept of reaching out to the marginalised in society as enshrined in Catholic Social Teaching. Jesus proclaimed, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has chosen me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed and announce that the time has come when the Lord will save his people.' In his words and actions Jesus showed us that we are all one and that we need to reach out to those on the margins of society.



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Towards the end of term we will begin our Christmas unit, which will continue after the Christmas holidays. During the whole unit we will explore the Christmas story in greater detail and look at some of the difficulties encountered by the Holy Family as a result of the

Birth of Jesus. In particular, the effects of being homeless and a refugee are covered. Connections are made between



the plight of Jesus and the homeless and refugees today. The role of King Herod highlights the problems faced by the refugees and homeless today. A focus is also provided on Christmas being a time of prayer and devotion.

### Year 6:



We begin our new school year by reminding ourselves about our school mission statement and by revisiting what it means to love and serve others and why this was so important for our founders, the sisters of the Immaculate Conception.

Our first unit is called Creation and explores what it means to be the 'People of God' through the eyes of Moses. Having been created by God, we exercise our freedom to deepen our relationship with God and overcome the barriers of jealousy and disharmony. It also

highlights the need to follow God's law and by upholding the commandments, we uphold the will of God. Upholding the will of God involves personal choices and often sacrifices. The nature of this sacrifice is explored in this unit. The work of the Church in overcoming the barriers is also considered. By exploring these concepts the children are providing meaning to the line in the Creed which states: "I believe in the Holy Catholic Church". In the multi-faith element, the importance of the Sabbath for Jews is examined.

Then we begin our unit on Catholic Social Teaching, the focus for this unit is encouraging and exploring the pupils how they might make a difference to the world by drawing on scripture, Catholic Social Teaching and Pope Francis' Laudato Si. We learn that a Christian's duty is to support those in need and this is linked to the scripture that forms the basis of Catholic Social Teaching.

Our Advent unit follows and this builds on work done in previous years in Advent. It provides further



detail on the nature of the Messiah who is to come, but provides a deeper opportunity to explore the response demanded of Christ's followers. The teachings of Christ, through his parables, provide us detailed teaching on watching and being prepared for the coming of God's Kingdom. The time of Advent is when we also prepare for the Second Coming of Christ through our prayers and by following Christ.

Towards the end of term we will begin our Christmas unit, which will continue after the Christmas holidays. During the whole unit we will look in more detail at the Christmas story through the eyes of the Gospel writers. A particular focus is given to St John's Prologue, which describes Jesus as 'the Word'. The meaning of the word 'Incarnation' is illustrated and developed. This will open out the different images of Jesus that are portrayed in Scripture. Similarities between the Christmas story, which appears in Matthew and Luke's Gospels, are also considered.

