

R.E. NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

AUTUMN 1 2025

The information below gives an overview of the first 'branch' being taught during Autumn 1— Creation and Covenant. You may wish to talk to your child about their understanding of the topics covered and share the 'Learning at Home' activities with them.

EYFS

In EYFS, the children begin by learning that God made each of us. Children explore how families are a gift from God and that we show love in our families towards each other. The children recognise that God created everything and said it was good. Children take time to explore what good means and that all creation is good, should be cherished and looked after. They reflect on how they can look after our beautiful world and how we are asked to show stewardship to God's creations. Finally, the children learn about the Sacrament of Baptism and how we celebrate becoming part of God's family through this special sacrament.

Years 1 and 2

In this first branch, Creation and Covenant, pupils will consider how the world exists and how all that is came to be. They will learn about the Christian belief that all that exists comes from God, the Creator, who Christians call Father, and that this belief is found in Scripture. The children will learn to recognise that it is a story about how God reveals his love, not a scientific account. Children will hear the opening words of the Nicene Creed as they express the belief that all that is comes from God, who created all that is seen, and all that is unseen. All pupils will be invited to reflect on what prayer means for them in their lives. Finally, children will reflect on the message in Laudato Si and how we all need to take care of God's creation.

Years 3 and 4

In Years 3 and 4, the children begin by learning that the Creation stories in Genesis use symbolism to explain the relationship between God, human beings, and the world. They reflect on the notion that without God, our lives are empty, chaotic and lack purpose. The children read prayers, poems and psalms about creation, acknowledging the meaning behind them and reflecting on what is wonderful about our world. They also reflect on how the praise of Creation is reflected in St Francis's Canticle of the Creatures before understanding what it means to be a steward of creation. Children then recognise that in Laudato Si', Pope Francis teaches that human beings are called to have a loving relationship with God, with each other, and with the world.

Years 5 and 6

In this unit of study, pupils will explore the historical, cultural, and religious context out of which Abraham was called. They will think about the historical context of biblical stories and that God's covenant with Abraham. is the foundation of the faith of the people of the Old and New Testaments: Judaism and Christianity. They will also discuss how faith is believing in God, trusting what God reveals, and following God's loving purpose to live a good life. They will explore the lives of the faithful and how through living out virtues of faith, hope, and love (sometimes referred to as charity), Christians are drawn into a closer relationship with the Holy Trinity.

Learning at Home – How can you support your child at home?

- ✦ Read the story of Creation together from a child's version of the Bible and say a prayer to God to give thanks for all the wonderful things that He has created.
- ✦ Talk to your child about their role and responsibility in God's creation and how we can all create a positive world around us following the example of Jesus.
- ✦ Go on creation walks to inspire awe and wonder.
- ✦ Take your child outside to take photos of things they love in the world
- ✦ Ask your child to think about what they can do to make the world a better place.

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Caritas In Action – Focus: Stewardship

RECEPTION

In reception, the children will be thinking about caring for God's Creation. They will think about the places they like to play at and where they go with their families. Following this, we will discuss the different places they like to go to, such as: a park, the beach, a playing field, etc. We will talk about how we can care for these places so that people would want to go there. We will also discuss what would happen if people didn't look after them.



Help at home

Please talk to your child about how we can care for the lovely places we take them to. When you visit a place, please discuss with your child what we can do to take care of it.

YEAR 1 AND 2

In Year 1 and 2 the children have been thinking about God's wonderful creation. Thinking about how plants grow and give us beautiful things to eat, see and smell. However, we have also been thinking about what happens if plants are not watered or if people litter which can spoil our world. The children thought about their favourite part of God's creation and then ways in which they could protect it.



Help at home

Talk to your child and ask them to think about the land, sea, rivers and sky. Discuss together ways in which you could work as a family to help protect the world?

Years 3 and 4

In Year 3 and 4 they are learning about giving thanks for God's creations. They will study prayers of thanksgiving found in the Bible and St Francis' Canticle Of The Sun. The children will consider their own thankfulness for God's creations and write their own prayers of thanks. They will consider Pope Francis' letter called Laudato Si, which is Latin for 'praised be'. They will discuss ways of showing thanks for God's creations by being good stewards of the Earth and consider how they can care for the school community.

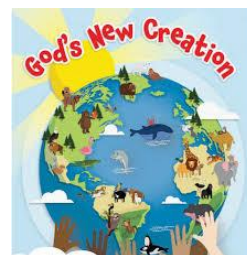


Help at home

Discuss ideas at home that would look after and protect your local area and show our thanks for the natural beauty of the Earth around us.

Years 5 and 6

In Years 5 and 6, the children will consider how the Bible tells us in Genesis that everything God has made is good and people are very good. They will discuss how Creation is being spoilt by people not understanding the true meaning of being good stewards and how selfishness and greed have taken over from appreciation of the beauty, respect and sharing. Children will then think of ideas on how to make the school more eco-friendly.



Help at home

Talk to your child about their ideas on how to make the school a better place. Are there any changes you could make at home to embrace Stewardship?