

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

newsletter February 2026

MUCH WOOLTON CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

'WITH JESUS WE LOVE, LEARN AND GROW'

Dear Families

Welcome back to everyone after the half-term break! We hope you were able to enjoy some special time together and that the children are feeling refreshed and ready for the weeks ahead. As we return, we also enter the meaningful season of Lent, a time in the Christian calendar for reflection, growth and renewal. Over the coming weeks, we will be encouraging the children to think about kindness, generosity and the small positive changes they can make in their daily lives. We look forward to sharing this special season with you all as we journey together towards Easter.

'TO KNOW YOU MORE CLEARLY' OUR NEW RE CURRICULUM - GALILEE TO JERUSALEM AS OUR NEW CURRICULUM IS WELL UNDERWAY SEE WHAT EACH YEAR GROUP WILL BE STUDYING THIS HALF TERM RECEPTION

In Reception, children will learn about Lent and Easter through the theme Desert to Garden. They will explore how Jesus teaches us to love God and one another, hear the Great Commandment, and discuss how to show love in daily life. Children will understand Lent as a time to prepare for Easter by making simple promises and learning the value of saying sorry. They will recognise signs of Lent like purple and ashes, and learn the key events of Holy Week, from Palm Sunday to the joy of Easter Sunday. Through stories, prayer, art, and role play, children will discover how Christians celebrate Easter, how to live like Jesus, and that Lent and Easter are celebrated differently around the world.

YEAR 1

In Year 1, children will learn about Lent and Easter by exploring stories, symbols, and activities. They'll discover how Christians prepare for Easter through prayer, fasting, and helping others; learn about the forty days of Lent and Jesus' time in the desert; study the main events of Holy Week; explore key Christian symbols; and reflect on giving and charity, including the widow's mite and supporting CAFOD Family Fast Day.

YEAR 2

In Year 2, children will learn about Lent and Easter through the theme "Desert to Garden," focusing on forgiveness, saying sorry, and God's welcoming nature. They will revisit Holy Week events, explore stories from St Luke's Gospel about turning back to God, and learn what it means to be forgiven. Pupils will also be introduced to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the meaning of Lent as preparation for Easter. Their learning includes the Easter Vigil and its symbols of new life and hope.

YEAR 3

In Year 3, children will learn about the Eucharist as a special sacrament and the central part of the Mass, focusing on the Liturgy of the Eucharist. They will study the Miracle of the Loaves and the Last Supper, and understand why the Mass is seen as a living memorial. Pupils will learn about key parts of the Mass, the meaning of prayers and actions, and the reverence for sacred vessels. They will also reflect on how Holy Communion inspires Catholics to live out Jesus' love in daily life.

YEAR 4

In Year 4, children will learn about Lent and Holy Week, focusing on forgiveness, reconciliation and how Christians show love through actions. Children will explore two key parables from the Bible: the parable of the lost son, which teaches about God's mercy and forgiveness, and the parable of the sheep and the goats, which helps pupils understand that helping others is part of loving God.

They will also learn to sequence and retell the main events of Holy Week from Matthew's Gospel, including different people's reactions to Jesus, and they will look closely at Peter's story and choices. Through this learning, children will be encouraged to reflect on how they can make positive changes during Lent through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, and by living out the corporal works of mercy in simple, practical ways, including supporting those in need in their communities.

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CURRENTLY, YEARS 5 AND 6 ARE CONTINUING WITH THE 'COME AND SEE' CURRICULUM.

YEAR 5

In Year 5, as part of the Come and See Religious Education programme, the children will be exploring the topic of Sacrifice. Through this unit, they will reflect on what sacrifice means in their own lives—such as giving up time or comfort for the good of others—and why it can be both challenging and rewarding. They will learn about sacrifice within the Christian tradition, particularly during Lent, and study key events of Holy Week, including the Last Supper and the sacrifice of Jesus. The children will have opportunities to read and discuss Scripture, share their own experiences, and consider how acts of love, generosity and self-giving can strengthen relationships with others and with God.

YEAR 6

In Year 6, as part of the Come and See Religious Education programme, the children will be exploring the topic of Death and New Life. In this unit, they will sensitively reflect on the experience of loss and the hope that can be found in new beginnings. The children will learn about the Church's understanding of death and eternal life, particularly through the events of Holy Week and Easter. They will study Scripture accounts of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection, and explore the Christian belief in the promise of new life through the Resurrection. Through discussion, prayer and reflection, pupils will be encouraged to think about how faith brings comfort, hope and meaning in times of sadness and change.

Thank you for your continued support in nurturing the faith and spiritual growth of your child.

OUR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP THEMES FOR THIS HALF TERM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

WEEK 1 - SAYING SORRY

WEEK 2 - LENT

WEEK 3 - BEING FAIR

WEEK 4 - FORGIVENESS/RECONCILIATION

WEEK 5 - HOLYWEEK/EASTER

Look out for invitations from teachers this term inviting families to join in class Collective Worship.

THE SEASON OF LENT

This half term sees the beginning of Lent, a special season in the Christian calendar that lasts for 40 days and helps us to prepare for Easter. As we begin this special season of Lent, we reflect on the life, sacrifice and love of Jesus Christ. In school, we focus on prayer, kindness and small acts of self-discipline. The children learn about making thoughtful choices, helping others and growing in compassion.

At home, the children could set simple goals such as sharing more, being patient or giving up a small treat, helping them to understand that Lent is a time for spiritual growth, gratitude and caring for those around us.



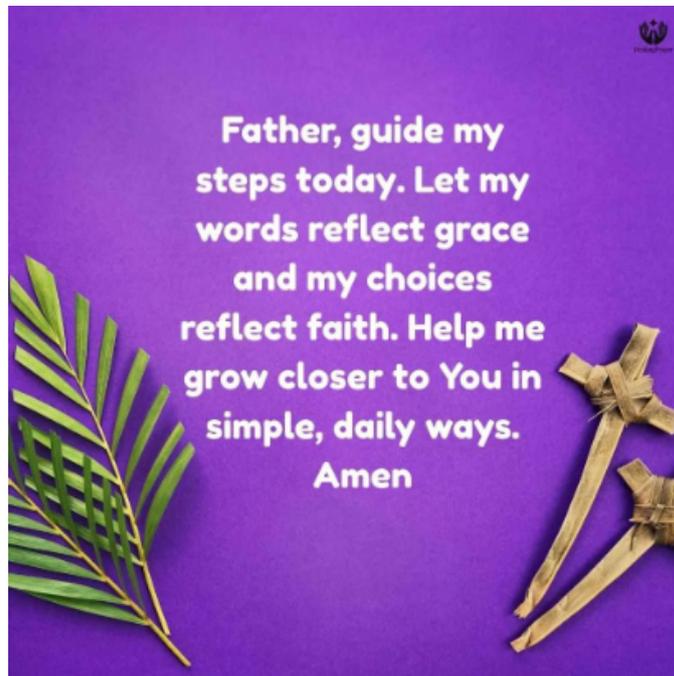
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'Let us take this time during this season of Lent to think about our journey from human brokenness toward the joy of Easter - a time for self-reflection.'



A SIMPLE PRAYER FOR LENT YOU CAN SHARE AT HOME



During Lent, the children will bring home a special Lent bag containing a small candle and a prayer card. This is a meaningful way for your family to share in this important season as we prepare for Easter and reflect on the life and love of Jesus. We invite you to find a quiet moment together at home to light the candle, say the prayer and talk about ways your family can show kindness, gratitude and love. You may choose to pray together, help someone in need or make a small Lenten promise as a family. We hope this will be a special opportunity for reflection, connection and shared faith at home.

'Let us ask for the grace of a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to the least among us.' Pope Leo's Lenten message 2026.

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OTHER NEWS

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

Pope Leo has released special prayer intentions each month this year with the hope that everyone will join him. His intention for March is for disarmament and peace.

'Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.' Pope Leo March 26.



PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



As some of our children begin their journey toward receiving their First Holy Communion, let us hold them close in our prayers. May God guide their hearts, deepen their faith and fill them with joy as they prepare to meet Him in this beautiful and sacred way.

RAMADAN

Let us keep our brothers and sisters observing Ramadan in our prayers, asking God to bless them with peace, strength and abundant grace during this sacred time.



EASTER EGG RAFFLES

Over the next few weeks, Mini Vinnies will be organising easter egg raffles to raise money for a charity of their choice. Tickets will be on sale in classes. Further information will be sent out on Arbor.

Thanks for your continued support as always.

FAMILY FAST DAY - HELPING OUR NEIGHBOURS TO GROW ENOUGH TO EAT



Thank you to all who supported our CAFOD 'Family Fast Day.' In total we raised £71.31. We stand with our neighbours across the world in love and solidarity to ensure everyone has food to eat. Money raised will be donated to the CAFOD appeal. Your generosity is gratefully received.

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SOME EXAMPLES OF OUR CHILDREN'S WORK FROM LAST HALF TERM

Monday 5th January
WALT: Recall the presentation story

Anna and Simeon wrap baby at the temple and meet Jesus special other side he is special

Monday 12th January 2026
WALT: Make a fact file about John the Baptist

John's parents were Zachariah and Elizabeth

John lived in Judea

John baptised people in the river Jordan

He wore camel hair and a sash

John ate honey and locusts

He did not walk but he did follow in Jesus

Wednesday 7th January 2026
WALT: Compare representations of Jesus being the son of God

Jesus is shown like because the paint like represent back then

This image shows Jesus being baptised by John in the Jordan River

People at the time might have thought Jesus was a false prophet and a liar

This image may have been made to show that Jesus was always the son of God

Thursday 20th January
WALT: reflect on what the Good News means for us

I can follow Jesus by listening

I can follow Jesus by being kind

I can follow Jesus by being kind

2th January
WALT: retell the story of the wise men

The wise men followed

They stop when they see the star and they know that you see the star of Bethlehem

They want to give the king a gift

Monday 12th January 2026
WALT: explain the meaning of the words in the hymn 'The Lord's Prayer'

- The words 'The Lord's Prayer'
- Traverse also means travelling very very very far
- Visible is to be perfect light means to be seen
- The three wise men represent it doesn't matter what place you come from

Monday 9th February 2026
WALT: Explain the meaning behind the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer
Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, for thou art the King, and the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen

Forgiveness
Forgive us our trespasses as we have forgiven the one who has sinned against us. The word 'forgiveness' means letting someone go without punishment but in other cases it means that someone is wrong. Therefore you that have sinned, God will forgive you if you are sorry. Another part of the Bible that shows forgiveness is the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant. An owner has two servants and the lord he is forgiving.

Peace and Unity
Peace and unity is a part of the world today because it is an important way of life for everyone. From the Bible, we know that Jesus is an example of unity. He was with his disciples and taught them that the best way to live is for everyone to be united. Another part of the Bible that shows peace is the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant. An owner has two servants and the lord he is forgiving.

Wednesday 21st January 2026
WALT: Understand the meaning of the Good News

Jesus brought the Good News to the world because Jesus said that he had come to the world and give life to all who believe in him. He also came to give the Good News to the world because Jesus said that he had come to the world to give life to all who believe in him. He also came to give the Good News to the world because Jesus said that he had come to the world to give life to all who believe in him.

Monday 20th January 2026
WALT: Understand Jesus' love for us

Wednesday 27th January 2026
WALT: Understand how Jesus loves us

The Bible is the book that tells us about Jesus and his love for us. It is the book that tells us about Jesus and his love for us. It is the book that tells us about Jesus and his love for us.

WALT: Understand how Jesus loves us

Jesus helped the man Jesus put clay on his eyes

WALT: Understand how Jesus loves us

Jesus showed love and kindness

WALT: Understand how Jesus loves us

Jesus showed love and kindness

Wednesday 14th January 2026
WALT: Understand how Jesus loves us

How does Jesus show love to the people who love him today?

Jesus' mission was to teach everyone the importance of loving your neighbor and we can live this out by helping people who are struggling and to treat people like you most to be treated.

Jesus' mission was to care for the poor. Many churches today help people who are struggling and to treat people like you most to be treated.

Jesus' mission was to show forgiveness to everyone. We can live this out by saying sorry to the people who have wronged us.