

RE in the Early Years

RE at Foundation Stage (Reception) is covered in the 'Understanding the World' area of the EYFS Curriculum.

'Lead Us Lord, To Act Justly, to Love Tenderly and To Walk Humbly. Amen' This is our School Ethos Prayer and when our children start school we teach them that God made us and our wonderful world and that we should care for each other and the world as God wants us to.

Our first topic in Reception is 'Our Wonderful World' and it allows us to teach the children all about God's creation and how precious life is. This emphasis on care for ourselves, one another and God's world comes from Pope Francis' letter to the people of the world called Laudato Si, and it is from his teachings that we base our curriculum.

We teach from the God Matters Scheme for RE and the themes we cover are the same as those in the rest of the school and follow the Liturgical year. For more information regarding the RE Curriculum and Assessment in RE, please read the RE Curriculum and Assessment at St. Augustine's document under the RE tab of the curriculum area of the school website.

Children are taught RE every day in Reception and the lessons take many forms. The children sometimes listen and respond to scripture through discussion, drawing or drama. They also learn how we can use God's teaching in living our lives. They learn about the importance of prayer and pray 3 times a day, in the morning, before lunch and at the end of the day. To develop their spirituality, the children sometimes help to compose class prayers and time is given to independent reflection through our daily Christian meditation. We spend time teaching the children that it's important to be at one with the Lord and the short meditation session gives the children time in their day to be at one with Christ.

Children are taught our Gospel Values. These are the behaviours and qualities that we encourage our children to display and these are: Compassion, Forgiveness, Justice, Integrity, Kindness Courage, Humility and Peace. Every two weeks we set a focus value for the school to work on and refer to that value in the course of our day. On a Friday, one child from each class is rewarded in Celebration assembly for living out this value. This work is important to us as we believe firmly that Christ is at the centre of all we do.

In the course of the children's self-initiated activities, the indoor and outdoor environments are set up to help the children learn through play. When a child starts an RE based activity, adults work hard to develop their knowledge and understanding and their ability to communicate their feelings and spirituality.

All of our RE work together with the time we spend on teaching our children about Catholic Life, help them progress seamlessly into Year 1 where they continue their spiritual journey.



Drawing a picture to show how Jesus is special.

Children using natural materials to make a picture of God's world.



The children's work on how Jesus helped Zacchaeus and Bartimaeus in our class RE Book.



Using found objects to create a cross of thanks for God.

Choosing to write a prayer to Jesus.

