ST MONICA'S RE NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2026



What will we study this term?

Creation and Covenant — God's World, God's Promise

This half term, children from Nursery to Year 5 will explore God's gift of creation and his loving relationship with humanity. From discovering the beauty of our world to learning about God's promises to Noah, Abraham and Moses, children will consider how we care for creation, respect one another and make loving choices. Year 6 will explore the connected theme of God's unconditional love through their Come and See topic, Loving. Together, we will discover how faith inspires kindness, responsibility and care in our everyday lives.

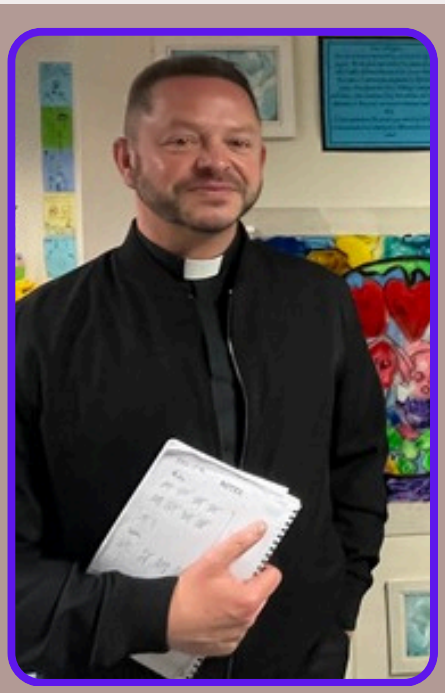
A warm welcome to our Autumn RE Newsletter and a new year at St Monica's.

Religious Education is at the heart of school life here in St Monica's, helping put God's teachings into practice through everyday kindness towards one another.

Nursery to Year 5 follow the new Religious Education Directory, To Know You More Clearly, exploring Scripture and Bible stories in detail and how to live this out in faith. Year 6 will continue with Come and See this term during this phased introduction oF RED.

We have also included simple home activities to encourage prayer, reflection and family discussion. Thank you for supporting your child's faith journey.

With every blessing, Mrs McGiveron, RE Lead



Father Ged's Welcome

A very warm welcome to all our St Monica's families. We are blessed to share a loving relationship between our school and church, where children, families, staff and parishioners support one another in faith and friendship. Our school's weekly visits to church help the children feel at home in our parish and discover the joy of belonging to a caring Christian community. We warmly welcome all families to join us at Mass, whether you come regularly or have not been for a while. Please join us on Sunday 4th October at 9:30am for our Family Mass with Little School, when we will gather to pray, celebrate and strengthen the bonds that make St Monica's such a special family.

Nursery and Reception - Autumn 1: Creation and Covenant

Home Activities

Talk about what makes each person in your family special and encourage your child to name something they love about themselves. Practise the Sign of the Cross together and say a short thank-you prayer. Choose one way to care for God's world, such as saving water or looking after plants.





Nursery

Our Nursery children will begin discovering that God made our beautiful world and loves each one of us. They will explore what makes them special and learn simple ways to care for themselves, one another and the world around them. Through songs, prayer and moments of wonder, they will begin learning the Sign of the Cross and saying thank you to God.

Reception

Reception will explore the wonders of creation, learning that God made each person unique and precious. The children will hear that everything God creates is good and consider how we can show love through caring for people, animals and plants. They will practise the Sign of the Cross and begin learning how Baptism welcomes us into God's family, the Church.

Year 1 - Autumn 1: Creation and Covenant

Home Activities

Invite your child to draw something in creation they feel thankful for and explain why they chose it. Say the Our Father together, or talk about its opening words. As a family, choose a small action to care for our shared home, such as switching off unused lights or reducing waste.



Year 1

Year 1 will explore the creation story in Genesis and discover how it expresses God's love for the world. The children will learn why Christians call God our Father and how prayer helps us draw closer to him, including through the Our Father. Inspired by Pope Francis' letter Laudato Si', they will consider practical ways to care for our shared home.

Year 2 - Year 4: Autumn 1: Creation and Covenant

Home Activities

Share the story of Noah and talk about the rainbow as a sign of God's promise. Make a family promise to care for the world and decide how you will keep it. If you have photographs of a Baptism, look at them together and discuss how the celebration welcomes someone into the Christian family.



Year 2

Year 2 will study the story of Noah, exploring God's promise to all living creatures and the rainbow as a sign of this covenant. They will learn how Baptism welcomes people into the Christian family and investigate the symbols used during the celebration. The children will also discover how psalms praise God and reflect on how their own choices can help others and protect creation.

Home Activities

Talk about what it means to treat everyone as equally precious, including people whose lives are different from our own. Ask your child how they could help someone feel included at school or at home. Spend a little time outdoors together and compose a short prayer of thanks for creation.



Year 3

Year 3 will revisit the creation account in Genesis, exploring its poetic language and the belief that every person is made in God's image. They will consider why this means everyone deserves dignity, equality and respect. Through prayers of praise and thanksgiving, the children will deepen their understanding of stewardship: our responsibility to care for God's world and one another.

Home Activities

Ask your child to share what they have learned about Abraham and his trust in God. Talk about a time when your family needed hope or courage, and who helped you. Choose one way to put faith, hope or love into action this week, perhaps by encouraging someone or helping a neighbour.



Year 4

Year 4 will explore the story of Abraham and God's covenant with him, learning how faith and trust shaped his journey. Through the stories of Abraham, Sarah and Isaac, the children will consider what it means to respond to God's call. They will explore the virtues of faith, hope and love, making connections with prayer and the ways we can put these virtues into practice.

Autumn 1: Year 5 and Year 6

Home Activities

Discuss the rules you have at home and how they help everyone feel safe, respected and loved. Invite your child to connect these with the Ten Commandments and Jesus' teaching to love our neighbour. Choose a positive habit to practise together, such as being fair, showing patience or having the courage to do what is right.



Year 5

Year 5 will study Moses' encounter with God in the burning bush and the covenant at Mount Sinai. They will explore how the Ten Commandments help people live well together, linking these with Jesus' teaching to love God and our neighbour. The children will also consider how virtues such as justice, courage and self-control help us make good choices and turn love into action.

Home Activities

Talk about how we can love someone even when we disagree with their choices. Share examples of patience, forgiveness and making a fresh start, reminding your child that being loved does not depend on being perfect. Encourage everyone to carry out a quiet act of kindness and end the week by reflecting on the difference these actions made.

Year 6 - Domestic Church and Family

This half term, Year 6 will explore Loving, discovering that God's love for us is unconditional and never ends. Through Scripture, the children will reflect on forgiveness, mercy and what it means to love someone even when things are difficult. They will consider how this shapes our relationships with family, friends and the wider community, recognising that through kindness, patience and forgiveness, we can reflect God's love in our everyday lives.



Family Assemblies

We are delighted to invite parents/carers to join us for our wonderful family assemblies throughout the year. These special occasions provide a lovely opportunity for the children to share what they have been learning and to celebrate important dates in the liturgical calendar together as a school community.

Further details will be shared with parents/carers closer to each assembly date.

Class	Event	Date
6M	Harvest	19/10/2026
4G	Advent	02/12/2026
4T	Candlemas	29/01/2027
6L	Ash Wednesday	05/02/2027
1H	Mother's Day	05/03/2027
5M	St. Patrick's Day	12/03/2027
1T	Earth Day	23/04/2027
5W	Month of Mary	07/05/2027
3P	Pentecost	11/06/2027 (AM)
3R	Jesus is the Light	11/06/2027 (PM)

St Monica's Catholic Primary School
Headteacher's Hot Chocolate Winners
Friday 2nd October 2026



Nursery ★

Noah Murphy
For always joining in so wonderfully during our RE lessons and talking about all the beautiful things God created in our world.

3R ★

Rory Reilly
For making a super effort to learn his times tables and showing independence and resilience. Well done, Rory!

RA ★

Otto Maher
For being a ray of sunshine. He works hard, listens carefully and spreads happiness around our class. Well done, Otto!

3P ★

Louie O'Donnell
For working hard to improve his handwriting and taking great care with the presentation of his work. Keep it up!

RW ★

Adam Byrne
For showing great resilience when forming his letters and always trying his best, even when things are difficult. Well done, Adam!

4G ★

Archie Perry
For showing such a wonderfully caring and thoughtful side towards his friends this week. Keep being the amazing friend that you are, Archie!

1H ★

Leo McCarthy
For making a great start to Year 1, trying his best, being resilient and letting his lovely personality shine.

4T ★

Leighton Small
For showing beautiful manners every day. He is kind and respectful and is always happy to help anyone who needs it. A fabulous role model!

1T ★

Jaxson Ponder
For always showing aspiration, trying his very best and being a fantastic role model for our school.

5W ★

Ava Shaw
For showing fantastic effort and aspiration by listening carefully to feedback and using it to improve her handwriting. Keep up the great work, Ava!

2M ★

Alice Cimoch
For showing respect to her classmates and dedication in all her lessons. She is a St Monica's role model to everyone!

5M ★

Dottie Goodaker Green
For the effort and aspiration she shows in all her lessons and her willingness to learn, especially through her choice of vocabulary in her writing. Well done, Dottie!

2C ★

Julia Zinonos
For always putting her best effort into her writing and finding creative ways to make it interesting and engaging for her reader.

6M ★

Evie Law
For always giving 100% effort in everything she does.

Mr Gouldbourne ★

Noah Saleh
For his superb work across the curriculum, from his handwriting to his wonderfull investigations in science. What a pupil and role model to us all!

6L ★

Raya Gormley
For making a fantastic start to Year 6 across all subjects. She shows resilience in all she does.

Mr Gouldbourne ★

Koko Onuoha
For being a kind-hearted pupil who helped others when they needed a friend. A superb pupil!

Mrs Hough ★

Lucas Vernon
For showing the other children the St Monica's way. He has been kind and caring to others.

Faith • Aspiration • Respect • Resilience