

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

ALL SAINTS

(1 November)

We celebrate the lives of special and ordinary people who have responded to God's invitation to love.

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)

(2 November)

Today and throughout the rest of November we pray for those who have died. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING

(20 November)

ADVENT

(Begins 27 November)

Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing. It is only in the last week of Advent that we focus upon the events to be celebrated at Christmas.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

(8 December)

This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and co-operated with God throughout her life.

CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

(25 December)

On this day we begin our celebration of the birth of Christ.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

(30 December)

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

This term we will be studying the three themes of Domestic Church (Family), Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and Advent and Christmas (Loving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children will also spend a week studying Sikhism.

DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY

Early Years	CREATION & COVENANT
Year 1 and 2	FAMILIES - God's love and care for every family
Year 3 and 4	HOMES - God's vision for every family
Year 5 and 6	OURSELVES - Created in the image and likeness of God

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love.

Write underneath it
"We show God's love to one another."

Include those who have died.

Sikhism (6th November- 10th November)

Pupils will study various aspects of Islam for one week. Ask them what they have been learning about.

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

Early Years	CREATION & COVENANT/PROPHECY & PROMISE
Year 1 and 2	BELONGING - Baptism: an invitation to belong to God's family
Year 3 and 4	PROMISES - Promises made at Baptism
Year 5 and 6	LIFE CHOICES - Marriage, commitment and service

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

Early Years	PROPHECY & PROMISE
Year 1 and 2	WAITING - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas
Year 3 and 4	VISITORS - waiting for the coming of Jesus
Year 5 and 5	HOPE - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home.

Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree.

Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar.