



Headteacher's Recommendation

Take a minute to read...

The New Nativity Alan Titchmarsh

When all those long, long years ago
a child came down to earth below,
To save the likes of you and me
from evil, harm and misery,
Do you suppose that even then,
there were some doubting, heedless men
Who, rather than believe the word,
just turned their backs and never heard?
You see, today we all recall,
the baby in the ox's stall.
The ass, the stables, shepherds, Kings,
- all ancient, rural, rustic things.
But what if, here, this very night,
it happened...on the Isle of Wight
Would we rejoice and all be merry?

Would we dash off and catch the ferry?
If Christ was born in Walthamstow,
would builders drop their tools and go?
Would Wapping printers stop their presses?
Would supermodels ditch their dresses?
In Hampshire and in rural Kent,
Would shepherds, by an angel sent
Walk miles to see a newborn child,
whose mother, unmarried, although mild
Had given birth to a baby boy,
not at the Dorchester or Savoy,
But in a garage, there's the rub,
round the back of the local pub.
And yet I like to think that we,
despite the e-mail and DVD
Would know to go, when star shone bright,
and make that journey through the night
To see the child who saves the world,
in some old oil drum safely curled.
The nativity for the Millennium.
Would anyone out there like to come?

Parents' Events

Parents / carers are always warmly welcomed to these events. This newsletter also outlines RE and PSHEC lesson topics for this half term. Events, Workshops, Courses and Forums are opportunities for parents/carers to meet and explore key issues in education.

Mon 8th Jan

School returns

Thurs 11th Jan

Oxbridge KS4 Lecture Parents' Launch Evening,
Hall (7.00-8.00pm)

Fri 12th Jan

Yr8 Retreat Day

Mon 15th Jan

Parenting Course, Pastoral Centre
(10.00am - 11.00am)

Weds 17th Jan

Relationships and Sex Education
Evening, M2 (7.00pm)

Thurs 18th Jan

Year 10 PSHEC (Well Woman Pt1)
(8.45 - 10.30am)
Year 11 PSHEC (Financial Literacy Pt1)
(8.45am - 10.30am)
Year 13 Parents' Evening (4.00-6.30pm)

Fri 19th Jan

Year 12 Sixth Form Training (3.00- 4.00pm)

Mon 22nd Jan

Parenting Course, Pastoral Centre
(10.00 - 11.00am)

Tues 23rd Jan

Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge (All Day)
Yr12 & 13 Feast of St Angela Merici
Commissioning Mass (Parents Welcome)
(9.40- 10.30am)

Weds 24th Jan

Yr8 & 9 Feast of St Angela Merici Mass
(Parents Welcome) (10.55-11.45am)

Thurs 25th Jan

Yr10 & 11 Feast of St Angela Merici Mass
(Parents Welcome) (10.55-11.45am)

Yr10 PSHE (Well Woman Pt2)
(1.25-3.10pm)

Yr11 PSHE (Financial Literacy Pt2)
(1.25-3.10pm)

Yr11 Parents' Evening (4.00-6.30pm)

Mon 29th Jan

Parenting Course, Pastoral Centre
(10.00 - 11.00am)

Tues 30th Jan

Year 7 Ethos Day
Yr7 Feast of St Angela Merici Mass
(Parents Welcome) (8.45-9.35am)

Thurs 1st Feb

Generations Together Forum (UFSC)
(3:15 - 4:30pm)

Fri 2nd Feb

School Council Meeting, SFSC
(2.00 - 3.00pm)

Tues 6th Feb

Yr9 Careers Networking
(8.45 - 12.40pm)

Weds 7th Feb

GCSE Music Concert (7.30 - 9.30pm)

Thurs 8th Feb

Year 10 PSHEC (Well Woman Pt3)
(1.25 - 3.10pm)
Year 11 PSHEC (Financial Literacy Pt3)
(1.25 - 3.10pm)

Fri 9th Feb

Term Ends

Mon 12th- Fri 16th Feb

HALF TERM

Mon 19th Feb

School Returns

LESSON TOPICS: SPRING A TERM

RE Programme

Year 7 will study the Sacraments of initiations: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist and how they influence the life of a Catholic believer. They key questions for this unit are: What is a Sacrament of Initiation? How and why do Catholics use signs and symbols in their worship? Why are Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist known as the Sacraments of Initiation? Why must a Catholic get confirmed if they have already been baptized? What is the link between the Sacraments of Initiation and God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit? What is the impact of the Sacraments of Initiation on the individual?

Year 8 will study Good versus Evil. The key questions for this unit are: Are certain actions good because God commands them or does God command them because they are good? How did evil enter the world? Are humans to blame or God? What is a Conscience? Can humans be trusted to always follow their Conscience? Does the good in the world outweigh the evil?

Year 9 will focus on 'The Holy Trinity/Triune God' in which they will study Psalms and the use of music in worship; Acclamations used in Mass; the Biblical basis of belief in the Trinity; The Trinity in the Nicene creed and Genesis 1; the importance of the Trinity on Christians today; The Trinity and God's love; The Magisterium's views; Baptism; prayers and postures.

Year 10 will explore the 'Redemption' in which pupils will study how the church architecture reflects Catholic beliefs; the main parts of a Catholic church; The role of Jesus in restoration through sacrifice; The significance of Jesus' death, burial, resurrection and ascension; Salvation; Redemption in the Bible; Ss. Irenaeus' and Augustine's thoughts on salvation; the importance

of conscience for Christians; Redemption and the Mass; Different Christian understandings of the Eucharist; Prayers in Mass and adoration.

Year 11 will explore Judaism: beliefs, teachings and practices. They will consider the nature of God; Judaism teachings and beliefs in the afterlife; the nature and role of the messiah; The Promised Land and the covenants with Abraham and Moses; Key moral principles; sanctity of life; Free will and Mizvot; the importance of the synagogue; the Shabbat; Bar and Bat Mizvah; marriage; mourning the dead; dietary laws; Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur; Pesach.

PSHEC Programme

Year 7 Will focus on 'Image'

- Puberty and well woman
- Exercise
- Eating disorders
- Stress
- Emotional wellbeing

Year 8 Will focus on Careers

- Option Choices

Local and National Government

- The political system.
- Laws
- How do others govern themselves?

Philanthropy project

Year 9 Will focus on Chaplaincy

- Self-esteem/ confidence
- Theft and honesty
- Dangers of Alcohol
- Employability skills and work related matrix
- Careers networking day

Year 10 Will focus on Sexuality

- The 'ideal body' myth
- Gender and sex
- The media
- Song lyrics and sexism
- Pornography
- Well Woman (Part 1)
- Well Woman (Part 2)

Year 11: Will focus on Sexuality

- Well Woman Day
- Sex education/ STIs
- Binge drinking & risks
- Sexualisation and media
- Pornography
- Consent and the law