



## Holy Cross Parent RE Newsletter

*One School Family, Achieving Together,  
Anchored in the Love of Christ*



Our new RE topic is: **Christmas**

Through this topic, we will explore how the events surrounding the birth of Jesus affected those involved and how it is still relevant for us in the 21st century.

It may seem strange that we are starting the Christmas topic now we have returned to school in January, but Christmastide is the name given to the time surrounding Christmas Day. In today's church calendar, Christmastide lasts from Christmas Day until the Baptism of Our Lord, which is the Sunday following 6<sup>th</sup> January. This time includes many other important Christian holy days. In the past, the season of Christmas lasted from Christmas until Candlemas, at the beginning of February. Christmas is important because it reminds us that:



- Jesus, the Son of God, came to Earth for all people (symbolised through the visits of the Magi and the shepherds, who represent the universal love of God)
- Mary and Joseph both had a strong faith in God, despite the difficulties they faced.

*"For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace".  
- Isaiah 9:6.*

**Our main themes in the Creation topic are different for each year group. We will learn:**

**Saint Jude Class (YR):** Jesus is special and was born in poor circumstances in Bethlehem.

**Saint Mary Class (Y1&2):** People recognised how special the Birth of Jesus was and that we give thanks and praise for his Birth.

**Saint John Class (Y3):** Jesus was born in poor circumstances. He came to call the poor, the disposed and the marginalised.

**Saint Teresa Class (Y4):** Angels were messengers of the Good News. We are called to be messengers of that Good News today.

**Saint Veronica Class (Y5):** As followers of Christ, we are called to give witness to the poor at Christmas.

**Saint Michael Class (Y6):** Jesus is the Son of God, God becoming human. Belief in the Incarnation is central to our faith.

We will be exploring the meanings behind Christmas through both our RE lessons and our daily collective worships. To help your children understand further, you may wish to read the following Gospel extracts with them at home:

- The Annunciation - Luke 1:26-38
- The Visitation - Luke 1:39-45
- The Nativity - Luke 2:7-16
- The Magi - Matthew 2:1-12

