

Pupil Chat – 19/09/2025

Governors Present: Tricia Opalko, Julia Evans, David Sammels and Kevin Harte

Topic: To chat to children about RE and meet the Chaplaincy team.

The governors welcomed the children, we introduced ourselves and explained who the governors are and what we were doing today. The children were at ease and happy to talk to us before we asked them our questions. The children had each brought in their RE books for us to look at. The governors had a look at the books and talked to the children about their work.

Year 1, 2 and 3 chat

Do you like RE?

All said yes.

Why is it important to learn about RE?

Some of the responses from the children were:

“So that we can be closer to God and learn about the Bible.”

“Because we are all Christians.”

“To stay on the straight path to God.”

What things do you learn about in RE?

The children told us they were currently learning about Creation and we discussed with the year 1 children what happened on each day. The older children said they had also learnt about Creation the year before. The year 2 children said as part of their Creation lessons, they learnt about “how to help our world.”

One child told us, “we have to care for our world because it’s a gift from God.”

The children also told us about the Catholic Social Teaching (CST) principles.

The year 3 children talked to us about a recent lesson they had had about the Baptism of Jesus. They also said they had been learning about St Carlos Acutis who was recently canonized.

Can you remember anything you learnt last year?

Year 3 children told us they had heard different stories from the Bible and had talked about Pope Leo. They had also learnt about our Jubilee Year.

We then discussed with the children whether they had learnt about Advent and Lent. The children said yes and they told us the importance of these liturgical seasons. We also discussed with the children other faiths they had learnt. They told us they had learnt about Judaism and Hinduism.

What do you know about Catholic Social Teaching?

The older children named some of the principles. They told us about dignity and that God created us in his own image. Another child said, "Solidarity. It's about working together."

Tell us about Celebration of the Word.

The children told us the following elements were included:

- Sitting in a circle
- It is a calm and quiet environment
- Candles and/or music
- A scripture reading
- Sometimes a cloth is put down with a Bible, candle and cross.

Do you feel safe in school?

All said yes. The primary reason was because there are adults always around.

What can you do if you are worried about anything in school?

The children told us they could talk to a teacher, use the worry box or tell a friend.

Year 4, 5 and 6 chat

Do you like RE?

All said yes.

Why is it important to learn about RE?

They all said it was important and the reasons they gave were:

“We are learning more about God.”

“The more you learn about God, the more you think.”

“It helps you get closer to God.”

“We learn about the Saints, and they can help you daily as you try to be like them.”

“We are a Catholic school, so it’s important to learn about our faith.”

What things do you learn about in RE?

The children talked to us about Creation. The year 4 children particularly talked about the days of creation and the story told from Genesis. They also talked to us about Matthew’s Gospel, and in particular the Sermon on the Mount.

The year 5 children talked to us about how God made us all special and how we must look after God’s creations. The school’s mission statement and school and class rules were also discussed.

The year 6 children then told us about Moses and the Ten Commandments.

Can you remember anything you learnt last year?

The year 4 and 5 children told us they had learnt about Mother Teresa, Pope Leo, Easter and Lent and the talents God gives us. They also learnt about the different colours that represent the different times of the liturgical year. They also had learnt about Catholic Social Teaching.

The year 6 children talked about Creation and the seasons of the liturgical year. They discussed with us the candles during advent.

They all said they learn about other faiths.

What do you know about Catholic Social Teaching?

Between them, they could tell us the principles. They told us if you try to follow them all they help make you a better person and to be a role model. They help guide you through life.

Tell us about Celebration of the Word.

The children told us that it was a time in the school day when we pray to God. It is a time to reflect and talk to God.

The children told us the following elements were usually included:

- Prayer
- It is a calm and quiet environment
- Candles and/or music and a picture to focus on the board
- A scripture reading

Year 4 said they had assistants (children) who helped with the set up and readings. They switch off the lights and take their shoes off.

The children also said sometimes they put the prayer table in the middle of the room and sit around it.

Do you feel safe in school?

All the children said yes.

What can you do if you are worried about anything in school?

The children told us they would tell a teacher or an adult, Cathy or Jen CO, use the worry box, or tell a friend.

Chaplaincy Team

We were fortunate to meet three of the four children who form the chaplaincy team. Most of the work they do is done at break time or lunchtime.

They told us they help with anything that relates to RE and meet with Miss Mulvany regularly. The children are often altar servers at mass and help with setting up for the celebration of the word.

Other examples of activities they have done are reading in mass, tidying up Mrs Coombs garden, reading to younger children and helping other children to pray.

The children were incredibly passionate about their role and said they had lots of ideas of things they wanted to do and would take them to Miss Mulvany or Mrs Camp Overy.

The governors would like to thank the children who came to talk to us. They were confident, polite, honest and articulate.