

Collective Worship Calendar 2023-2024

At St Michael's our mission statement is '**for every child to live an abundant life**' and we believe that this can be accomplished through providing rich and rewarding experiences. We seek to achieve this by underpinning our curriculum with the teaching of Christian values. We believe that values education will not only support the children to make a positive contribution to a fair, just and civil society, but it will also support their own spiritual growth.

Schools are required to be responsible for the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development of their pupils, therefore Spirituality is core to this wider aspect of growth and the development of children taking place across the whole of the curriculum and in all aspects of school life.

What is Spirituality?

By its very nature, spirituality cannot be readily defined or confined by words as "it is more felt-sense, drawing on non-verbal insights, vision, sound, touch and so on. It can be a powerful kind of knowing that is less worried about proving how you know." (Nye R, 2009; Children's Spirituality)

Some definitions that others have used/proposed are:

Living fully with nothing excluded from our hearts.

The search for God in response to God's search for us.

The sense making activity that both children and adults necessarily carry out as a result of life experiences they encounter.

Spirituality ranges from sensing of divine presence to the recognition of a heightened quality in an event or encounter and a response of awe and wonder.

Aspects of Spiritual Development

The provision for spiritual development at St Michael's School will help pupils and staff to develop their:

Ability to be reflective about their own beliefs and perspective on life

Knowledge of, and respect for, different people's faiths, feelings and values

Sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them

Use of imagination and creativity in their learning and/or teaching

Willingness to reflect in their experiences

School Statement on Spirituality (adapted from ideas developed by the Diocese of Gloucester Education Department)

In the prophet Isaiah (chapter 64,v8), we are likened to pots of clay all made by the potter (God, our heavenly Father). Yet, in life things happen that impact on the physical 'pot' of life and create cracks that provide a glimpse of something 'beyond' the tangible. Christians would view this as an opportunity to relate to the Divine Creator God.

Cracks may be caused when something so good and breath-taking happens that the pot expands and cracks – the '**wows'** of life.

Cracks may happen when something challenging happens and threatens the comfort of everyday – the '**ows'** of life.

Cracks can also happen in the stillness and ordinariness of everyday – the '**nows'** of life, when a moment of stillness, a pause or prayer creates a crack in the normal, physical every day.

St Michael's School uses this language and the concepts of '**wows**', '**ows**' and '**nows**' to explore relationships with:

Ourselves

Others

The wider natural world and beyond

The Divine Creator (God)

Spirituality in Collective Worship

Collective Worship is the beating heart of our school. It provides the opportunity for our school community to share experiences, ideas and understanding. It is the context in which the language of spirituality, which we use as a school, is regularly and explicitly shared.

Collective Worship provides the opportunity for pupils to become aware of the importance of reflection and how our positive and negative experiences can be formative. It also provides a real sense of being present (now moments) which are often linked to invitations to pray.

Through daily Collective Worship, pupils are offered a space and a place for hearing the Christian story. They are offered an understanding of worship by being invited to participate in, or observe, Christian spiritual practices such as: prayer, reading and reflection on the Bible and liturgy and are introduced to different musical traditions.

Opportunities to reflect on the wows of life such as beauty and joy of the world are given, as well as time to reflect and empathise with the ow moments of disappointment or pain.

Pupils are given time to consider their responsibilities to others and to grow in love and service. Time is given for celebration, both for the accomplishments of school members and to mark seasonal Christian festivals and celebrations in the calendars of other faiths as well as significant social and cultural events in the life of our country and community. In this way pupils are offered time to be able to contemplate and develop spiritually.

Alongside this, the school has chosen six key values or ‘school’ values we actively teach and promote - ***hope, trust, love, peace, resilience and joy***; we strive to teach the children to be respectful and kind. These values are permeated through the school life and each half term one of the school values is discussed in greater depth and explored from a biblical perspective. These work on a rolling programme so that the core values are explored at different times in each academic year. An all-encompassing thread, which runs through the value developed each half term is our one school rule of respect. We teach our children that they have the power to build respect with the way they conduct their lives. We teach our children to show respect and to take responsibility, to be honest, loyal and to lead by example, to persevere, show compassion, reflect and ultimately develop integrity – doing the right thing when no-one is watching – because God is watching. Ultimately we believe that embedding these values in our lives, underpinned by our school rule to be respectful and kind, will make us resilient individuals and enable us to make a positive contribution to this world.

The value of respect “be the best you can be”

Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honour the King.

1 Peter 2:17

Show acts of kindness

Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12

As we reflect about our daily actions and thoughts we pray for strength to be better people. We pray the prayer Jesus taught in Matthew 6 to help us to be the best we can be to ourselves and to God.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Value	Theme
Resilience	Resilience is the ability to recover quickly from difficulties, to “bounce back” when facing challenges. Challenges will come and dealing with these challenges is key for the development of children’s resilience. Uncertainty is an important part of life, as it will stretch children’s ability to think and analyse. Resilience develops the children’s inner wisdom, the strength of their character, and their emotional intelligence.
Peace	We learn that peace is a state of mind. If you find peace in God, you can be happy despite any situation. If you have everything the world can give - pleasure, possessions, power - but lack peace of mind, you will not find true happiness, which will lead to a lack of joy.
Trust	Trust can easily be broken in this world, but we learn that we can trust God in every circumstance. In our lives we go through trials and following God’s plan might seem as if it doesn’t make sense, but we learn that God is always in control and he will never leave us.
Love	Love is the capacity to extend ourselves for the sake of another person’s growth. God is the ultimate example of love in action. Love teaches us to understand, respect, and support each other. Love requires action. It’s not a <i>thing</i> we try to get for ourselves, but instead is an <i>action</i> we express to others through sharing and serving. Love activates, love empowers and love encourages the growth of our other core values.
Joy	Joy is not based on circumstances, but a deep-seated sense of happiness in what God has done and what he is doing. We believe we are shaped by our thoughts; when the mind is pure, joy follows like a shadow that never leaves.
Hope	Hope alongside faith is a living and daring confidence in God’s grace. Hope sees the invisible, feels the intangible and achieves the impossible. Hope gives us direction. Hope gives us the determination and strength for whatever we face. In Romans 12:12 it says: ‘Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble and keep praying’. Hope is <i>not</i> the conviction that something will turn out well, but the <i>certainty</i> that something makes sense, regardless of how it turns out.

- Church calendar
- Key dates from other religions
- Health and Well-being Agenda
- UNICEF Agenda
- Safety

Table cloth colour in date column

Autumn 1: Truths of God - who do you think you are?

Value – Joy (Respect)

Week Beginning	Monday Value UNICEF	Tuesday Bible Stories Led by Year 6 Picture News Class Collective Worship Led by CT	Wednesday Church Worship Rev Ifeanyi	Thursday Praise Worship	Key Dates/Topic Links
4 th Sept Green	The value of Joy <i>May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace.</i> Romans 15:13		New beginnings and fresh starts		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Headies • British Values
11 th Sept Green	15th Sept: International Day of Democracy		I am a child of God Signs and symbols in the church John1:12		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weds 13th: Roald Dahl Day • 15th: World Afro Day • 15th - 17th Rosh Hashanah
18 th Sept Green			I am a friend of God John 15:15		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18th – 24th Jeans for Genes week • Weds 20th: Bishop Patteson Day (John Coleridge Patteson) • Thurs 21st: International Day of Peace • 24th – 25th Yom Kippur
25 th Sept Green Family Worship Begins			I am created for good works Ephesians 2:10		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues 26th: European Day of Languages • Sunday 1st Oct: St Michael's Day/ Harvest festival • Fri 29th – Fri 6th Sukkot
2 nd Oct Green	Thurs 5th Oct: World Teachers Day		I am a temple of God 1 Corinthians 3:16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thurs 5th: National Poetry Day
9 th Oct Green			I am salt and light Matthew 5:13-16 11th Buddy Service Reception Parents invited		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues 10th: World Mental Health Day
16 th Oct Green			I am free John 8:36 School Harvest Service		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22nd Oct St Michael's Harvest Festival
Healthy Body, Mind & Spirit agenda:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping children safe: Speak Out and Stay Safe – Online lessons • Trusting adults you know (Yrs 5 and 6) (www.safeguardingschools.co.uk/alrightcharlie) • Pants, Alright Charlie, The Blast Project; Keeping secrets (whisper) 					

Autumn 2: Parables of Jesus

Value – Peace (Respect)

Week Beginning	Monday Value UNICEF	Tuesday Bible Stories Led by Year 6 Picture News Class Collective Worship - Led by CT	Wednesday Church Worship Rev Ifeanyi	Thursday Praise Worship	Key Dates/Topic Links
30 th Oct Green All Saints Day White	The value of Peace Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. Do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid John 14:27		The Talents		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 31st All Hallows Eve 1st All Saints Day 5th: Bonfire Night
6 th Nov Green			School Remembrance Service 8 th November @ 9.05 am (Parents invited)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10th World Science Day 12th: Diwali 12th Remembrance Sunday
13 th Nov Green			Prodigal Son		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13th – 17th Anti-bullying week Fri 17th Children in Need (42nd Year)
20 th Nov Green	<u>20th</u> Universal Children's Day		Lost Coin		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19th – 25th Road Safety Week
27 th Nov Green	<u>3rd</u> International Day of Disabled Persons		The Sower		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30th Nov St Andrews Day 3rd Advent Sunday 3rd Christingle
4 th Dec Purple	<u>10th</u> Human Rights Day (Introduce advent and light the first advent candle). Start of the Christmas story. Mary's visit from the angel Gabriel / John the Baptist		Lost Sheep		Posada journey begins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thurs 7th Christmas Jumper Day Thurs 7th – Fri 15th :Hanukkah
11 th Dec Purple	(Light the second candle) The journey to Bethlehem: Looking at Mary and Joseph's journey. How would they feel? What can we learn from this story?		12th: Christmas Performance to Parents The Unmerciful Servant		
18 th Dec	(Light the third candle) The Magi in anticipation				

Healthy Body, Mind & Spirit Agenda:

Firework safety

Stranger Danger ([safety4kids](#));

Spring 1: Miracles of Jesus - Epiphany

Value – Love (Respect)

Week Beginning	Monday Value UNICEF	Tuesday Bible Stories Led by Year 6 Picture News Class Collective Worship -Led by CT	Wednesday Church Worship Rev Ifeanyi	Thursday Praise Worship	Key Dates/Topic Links	
8 th Jan Green	The value of Love Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. 1 Cor 13:4-8		Feeding 5000 John 6:5-14	Epiphany: Epiphany Chalk blessings	Sat 6 th : Epiphany	
15 th Jan Green			Water into wine: First miracle performed			
22 nd Jan Green			Baptism: how, why, where, who, symbolism of pouring/living water. Also link to Jesus' baptism, second revelation of his divinity, etc.			
29 th Jan Green	15th: Martin Luther King Day		Healing two blind men	Conversion of St Paul: arch-enemy and persecutor to apostle to the Gentiles		
5 th Feb Green	27th: Holocaust Memorial Day Theme – Fragility of Freedom		Calming a storm: Where can there be storms? Link to troubles (storms in our lives)		• 29th – 5th: National Storytelling week	
			Presentation of Christ: Candlemas – blessing and distribution of candles, end of Christmas/Epiphany season			
			Lazarus:		• 5th-11th: Children's Mental Health Week • 7 th Safer Internet Day • 10 th Chinese New Year	

Healthy Body, Mind & Spirit Agenda:

- 5th – 11th Feb: [Children's mental health week](#),
- 7th Feb: [Safer Internet Day](#) E-safety ([Trust Me](#))

Spring 2: God's Promises - Mighty Women and Men of God

Value – Hope (Respect)

Week Beginning	Monday Value UNICEF	Tuesday Bible Stories Led by Year 6 Picture News Class Collective Worship Led by CT	Wednesday Church Worship Rev Ifeanyi	Thursday Praise Worship	Key Dates/Topic Links
19 th Feb Green	The value of Hope <i>For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.</i> Jeremiah 29:11		Abraham: Promise to be a Father of a nation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13th Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day • 14th Ash Weds/Lent begins • 17th Feb: Random Acts of Kindness Day
26 th Feb Green			Esther: Mighty woman – actions saved a nation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Mar: St. David's Day • Thurs 7th World Book Day
4 th Mar Purple			Noah : How God kept His promise to Noah. What can we learn from this story?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th International Women's Day • 10th: Mothering Sunday • 10th: Start of Ramadan
11 th Mar Purple			Ruth: Using wisdom. If we love others and follow our heart in the way we treat everyone, it's hard to go wrong.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17th: St. Patrick's Day • 17^h: Red Nose Day
18 th Mar Purple	<u>21st:</u> Elimination of Racial Discrimination <u>21st :</u> Spring Equinox and Earth Day <u>22nd:</u> World Water Day		King David: Mighty Man of God – made mistakes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thurs 21st: World Poetry Day • Sat 23rd – Sun 24th March: Purim
25 th March Purple			Moses: Why is Moses a good example to us of promise? What can we learn from his life?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mon 25th: Holi

Healthy Body, Mind & Spirit Agenda:

Fire safety;

17th - Sports Relief/ Red Nose Day

- **Palm Sunday:** 24th March
- **Maundy Thursday:** 28th March
- **Good Friday:** 29th March
- **Easter Sunday:** 31st March

Summer 1: Stories from the Old Testament

Value – Resilience (Respect)

Week Beginning	Monday Value UNICEF	Tuesday Bible Stories Led by Year 6 Picture News Class Collective Worship Led by CT	Wednesday Church Worship Rev Ifeanyi	Thursday Praise Worship	Key Dates/Topic Links
15 th Apr White	The value of Resilience <i>We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed.</i> 2 Corinthians 4:8-9		Cain and Abel		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22nd: Earth Day • 23rd: St. George's Day • 20th: Ramadan ends • 21st-22nd: Eid-Al-Fitr
22 nd Apr White			(Parents invited) Jonah and being obedient		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22nd -30th April Passover • Thurs 23rd Vesak
29 th May White	<i>The righteous keep moving forward, and those with clean hands become stronger and stronger.</i> Job 17:9		Elijah – being loyal		
6 th May White			Solomon - Wisdom		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14th: National Children's Day
13 th May White			Job- Suffering		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18th: Ascension Day • 20th– 25th: Walk to school week • 21st: Ascension Sunday
20 th May Pentecost Red			School Pentecost Service 24th May @ 9.05am (Parents invited) Moses: Why is Moses a good example to us of promise? What can we learn from his life?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28th: Pentecost/Whitsunday • 26th: Trinity Sunday
Healthy Body, Mind & Spirit Agenda:					
22 nd April: Earth Day Exercise (fitness challenges, walk to school, get cycling); 16 th – 20 th May: Walk to school week					

Summer 2: Fruits of the Spirit

Value – Trust (Respect)

Week Beginning	Monday Value UNICEF	Tuesday Bible Stories Led by Year 6 Picture News Class Collective Worship Led by CT	Wednesday Church Worship Rev Ifeanyi	Thursday Praise Worship	Key Dates/Topic Links
3 rd June	The value of Trust <i>Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight</i> Proverbs 3:5-6 5th: World Environment Day		Gentleness: Gods gentleness towards us and how we can be gentle towards others		
10 th June Green	12th: World Day Against Child Labour		Joy: The joy of Paul and Silas in prison Acts 16:16-34		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10th – 14th: Healthy Eating Week • 16th: Father's Day • 11th -13th :Shavuot • 16th – 19th: Eid-Al-Adha
17 th June Green	20th: World Refugee Day		Self-control: Samson		
24 th June Green			Patience: Abraham and Sarah		
1 st July Green			Faithfulness: Daniel in the lion's den		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7th July – 4th August: Muharram/Islamic New Year
8 th July Green			Kindness: How can we show kindness to all and be the best that we can be. Random acts of kindness		
15 th July Green			Summer Performances (TBC)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thurs 18th: Nelson Mandela Day
22 nd July Green			Final Church Service		
Healthy Body, Mind & Spirit Agenda: Transport safety (<i>trains, bikes and scooters</i>) Bike ability (Year 5,6) 10 th – 14 th June: Healthy eating week (www.lewisham.gov.uk/sugarsmart)					