

ST. ANNE'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SUBJECT LEADER'S REPORT FOR PARENTS

OCTOBER 2018

INTRODUCTION

St Anne's is a school with a strong Catholic ethos, which nurtures and promotes care and compassion for each other. We teach, model and embrace the key values of love and respect for others, respect for different faiths and cultures, ensuring all members of the school community have a voice. The school is rich in diversity. The Gospel values espoused by Jesus underpin the children's development spiritually, emotionally, socially and academically.

OVERVIEW OF 2017/2018

The 'Come and See' scheme of work is used from Nursery to Y6. 'Come and See' is a comprehensive scheme with lots of background notes and information relating to theology and church organisation. It also references scripture and opportunities for SMSC. We also use Caritas, to provide materials for themed days about Catholic social teaching. Ten Ten resources and the Wednesday Word are used for assemblies and collective worship. Other faiths are covered through the 'Come and See' Curriculum. Jeremy Michaels also visited school to talk to pupils about the Jewish faith.

Pupils were assessed termly by completing levelled tasks relating to the Come and See programme. Results in RE have been compared with writing results. With the exception of one class the percentage on track for RE either matches or surpasses the writing percentage. This is pleasing as it shows that most children are able to express their thoughts confidently in the written form and there has been a clear transfer of skills. The 'Big Questions' approach to each topic was popular with children and teachers alike. Children referred to the 'Big Question' throughout the unit of work and were able to acknowledge when their views or understanding changed.

Work scrutinies and pupil voice activities were carried out throughout the year. The volume of work produced in RE lessons compared favourably with literacy lessons. Questioning and discussion was used effectively to enable children to articulate their thoughts. Differentiation was used effectively to produce deeper learning. Children were confident when talking about their work and took pride in it.

Pupils in Year 1 to Year 6 attended Mass each Thursday in church with some parents and parish members joining the congregation. As well as daily prayers children have Collective Worship each Tuesday. Pupils in Year 3 to Year 6 take turns to plan it and it has led to a more secure knowledge of scripture.

Just Youth continue to work in school every Tuesday. They spent time in Y1 to Y5 and EYFS/Y6 on alternate weeks. They also helped Y3 prepare for the Sacramental Programme and held retreats for children in Y4 to Y6 at the Spiritan Centre in Salford. The Just Youth mission was held just before Advent. Pupils in Year 3 to Year 6 also attended retreats at the Marist Centre in Didsbury.

The GIFT team led assemblies, masses, worked in classes during Advent and Lent and led a saints club. They led charity initiatives such as the Harvest Assembly collection. They also worked with Just Youth on a rota basis and said they felt more confident when speaking to their peers in class activities as a result of this.

Representatives from CAFOD and Cornerstones charity came into school to explain their work to children.

RE INSPECTION

The judgement overall was Good with the quality of Catholic leadership and the Catholic life of the school deemed to be Outstanding.

The key strengths of the school included:

- The Catholic life of the school where every child is given every chance and is treated with love, dignity and respect.
- Delightful children who articulate their pride and joy in attending St Anne's with great affection.
- Outstanding leadership, including governance, which has protected St Anne's in times of challenge and change.
- The school's sense of community whereby every person is valued and welcomed as a child of God.

The inspectors said they were 'blown away' by pupils' responses to questions and though verbally they displayed excellent knowledge and understanding.

The areas for development are:

- To enhance further the quality of children's work by raising expectations of what children can consistently achieve and so that outstanding work is celebrated and modelled for all to witness.
- To extend the school's provision in Worship to include regular, child led, contemplative and meditative prayer.
- To create a more celebratory learning environment.

The points above will form part of the action plan for RE next year.

ACTIONS FOR 2018/2019

- To implement the new assessment procedures from Salford Diocese.
- To give the children more opportunities for meditative prayer.
- To match written work to pupils' knowledge and understanding particularly at the higher standard.

