



Wednesday 7th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 5 RE – Term 3

In Year 5, for the next two terms, our Religion and Worldviews unit will be exploring different people’s beliefs about life, death, the afterlife and souls. During the lessons there will be discussions around what different people or religions believe about the enquiry question ‘What happens when we die?’. Children will compare Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Dharmic, Sikh and Buddhist texts and sources which discuss a human’s soul, what happens at funerals, and ideas of heaven, atonement, reincarnation, karma and purgatory. The enquiry questions and learning objectives for each lesson are listed below.

All lessons will be tailored by the teachers to create a safe space for children’s learning, help them to develop their own worldviews, and will be delivered with compassion and consideration for children’s previous experiences. All lessons and activities can be adapted to suit the needs of different classes and individuals, and some children will have a preview of the lesson so that they can decide how they want to access the learning based on their own emotional needs.

Please also be aware that your child may want to ask you some questions about different aspects of their learning over the next few months. If you wish to notify the school of anything to be aware of regarding your child, or if you have any concerns about the content of the lessons, please contact Miss Drummond, Miss Mann or the Family Liaison Officer – Kerry Mackenzie-Fraser.

What happens when we die? (Part 1)

Lesson 1	Why do some people believe in a soul? LO: To recognise the significance of the soul in people’s beliefs about the afterlife and its role in Abrahamic religions.
Lesson 2	How do some people make up for bad deeds? LO: To explore some Jewish beliefs about death through the concept of purgatory.
Lesson 3	If there’s a heaven, what might it be like? LO: To investigate Muslim beliefs about the afterlife by investigating sources.
Lesson 4	What is the purpose of a funeral? LO: To explain what funerals can mean in different worldviews.
Lesson 5	How do some people seek forgiveness in their lives? LO: To explore the role of forgiveness for some people in different worldviews.
Lesson 6	How do some people remember those that have died? LO: To recognise the significance of Dia de lo Muertos for some Catholic people.



What happens when we die? (Part 2)

Lesson 1	If there's a soul, where does it go? LO: To explain some Dharmic beliefs about the soul.
Lesson 2	What is samsara? LO: To understand some beliefs about samsara and reincarnation.
Lesson 3	How might someone reach moksha? LO: To recognise factors that may contribute to someone breaking the cycle of reincarnation and samsara.
Lesson 4	How can people find comfort after death? LO: To describe how certain practices and traditions may help a Sikh person cope with the death of someone.
Lesson 5	What is nirvana? LO: To express ideas about enlightenment based on Buddhist beliefs.
Lesson 6	What does enlightenment look like? LO: To express ideas about enlightenment based on Buddhist beliefs.

Kind regards,

Ms. Drummond and Miss Mann