

## Community, Compassion, Forgiveness, Friendship, Thanksgiving, Trust

## **Spiritual Life**

As a Church of England school we follow the teachings of Christ and the teachings of Archbishop Stuart Blanch. The ethos of the school is at the heart of our teaching and learning.

The school year begins with a whole school service and a Year 7 service of blessing; followed by a whole school prize giving in early October. November is a time of remembrance, along with school service students represents the school at Remembrance Sunday service at the cenotaph at St George's Hall in Liverpool.

Advent begins with a whole school service coming together as a community to celebrate the birth of Jesus. The whole school takes part in Creative Learning day based around the theme of Christmas. The festival of Christmas is an important time for our local and wider community; we work together as a school community to deliver shoe boxes to those in need around Eastern Europe and North Africa as well as collecting and delivering food parcels to local food banks. We do this to make a difference to those in need in our wider community.

Spring term begins with the celebration of the Epiphany leading into the commemoration of the Holocaust. Lent commences with another whole school service on Ash Wednesday concluding with an Easter Service. This time of the year allows for a further Creative Learning experience around the theme of Lent.

As a busy year comes to an end we say goodbye to our Year 11 and Year 13. Celebration plays an important role in our school, so as with the welcome masses we have leavers masses were students plan and help to prepare for their final time together as a year group.

The experience of prayer is therefore an integral part of school life at Archbishop Blanch. We have a weekly prayer theme each morning we start the day with prayer time for staff. This collective worship continues into the classroom daily for the rest of the week with daily reflection. Form tutors pray with their forms every day using liturgical materials devised by the school Lay Chaplain. Each morning briefing begins with a prayer. Fridays allows for a staff communion service. The school prayer room is available for use by all during the day.

## **Weekly Prayer Themes**

To embed our six core values each week we celebrate a weekly prayer theme. The theme follows the season liturgically or the time of the year. Also, prayer themes may be relevant to where we are in the school calendar...so for example we could have a prayer theme for 'exams' during June or 'celebration' during our annual prize giving event.

## Charities

At Archbishop Blanch we continue to remember those in need, throughout the year staff and students work hard to raise money for various charities. During Lent and Advent each year group is give a charity as their focus for raising awareness and money to help the cause. Some of the charities we have helped:

Alder Hey Children's Hospital

Liverpool Central Food Bank

Blythswood Christmas Shoe box appeal

Poppy Appeal

Red Nose Day

BBC Children in Need

**Liverpool Homeless** 

**Christmas Jumper Appeal** 

Zoë's Place

Fair Trade Fortnight