

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education (SMSC)



All schools, including Sacred Heart promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of their pupils. SMSC is essential for children's individual development as well as for the development of society as a whole.

Sacred Heart highlights the importance of SMSC as central to the development and growth of our pupils as people and it is at the heart of what education is all about.

What is Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education?

Some people assume **spiritual** development is about religious exploration or faith and that this is covered in our Religious Education Programme: 'Come and See'. Yes, this is true, but spirituality is much more than this. The spiritual in SMSC is concerned with developing the non-material aspects of life, focusing on personal insight, values, meaning and purpose. Beliefs that help provide perspective on life may be rooted in a religion, but equally may not. Creativity and imagination is important, as is a sense of fascination, awe and wonder.

The **moral** element is largely about choices, behaviour and how you live your life. It's also about personal values and the values owned by different societies, understanding the reasons for them and airing and understanding disagreements. Learning in class or assemblies, might explore the consequences of decisions, other people's needs, and ways of learning from experience.

Social development shows pupils working together effectively, relating well to adults and participating in the local community. This element of SMSC includes personal growth, successful personal relationships.

Cultural development is about understanding and feeling comfortable in a variety of cultures. At Sacred Heart we create opportunities for pupils to experience culture through art, performance and educational visits. We explore faiths and cultures through our 'Come and See' RE programme and we value cultural diversity.

British Values

At Sacred Heart, we 'actively promote' as set out by the government, the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. We achieve this through planning learning opportunities through Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development.

Here are some brief extracts of assemblies where we have shared and promoted SMSC and British Values this term.

At the start of a new school year (3rd September 2015)

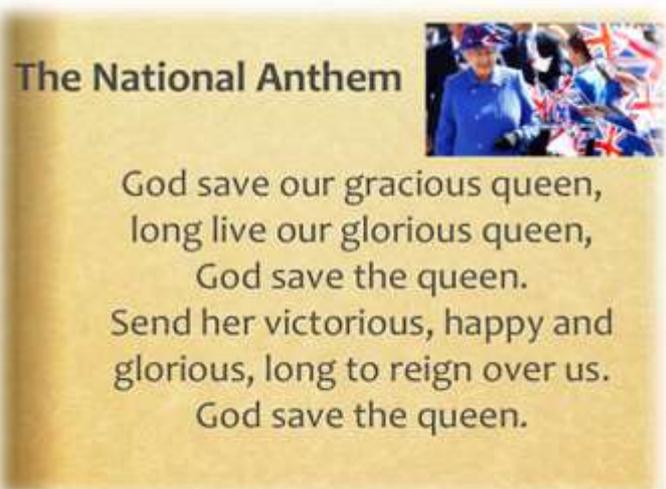
What are the personal challenges we face in our lives at the start of this new school year? Exploring thoughts, emotions, fears... what choices will we make? Time to reflect, gather our thoughts and rise to the opportunities of a new beginning.



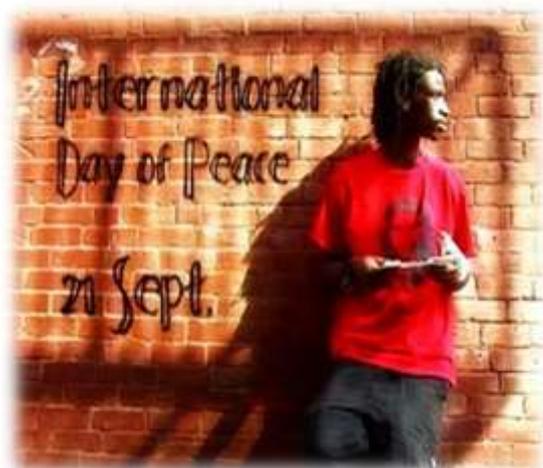
Queen Elizabeth September 14th 2015

Our Queen Elizabeth is our longest serving Monarch. She has served as our Queen for over 63 years and 220 days. During our assembly we thought about her work and service to others. We explained about what is meant by the monarchy, the Royal family and succession. We prayed for our Queen and sang our National Anthem.

Do all countries have a Royal family? Who rules in a country?



International Day of Peace – September 21st 2015



The International Day of Peace is used annually to highlight a Culture of peace and non-violence for the World.

The day serves as a reminder of our permanent commitment to peace, above all other interests and differences of any kind. It reminds us that war does not just affect adults. Children are often the victims of a war.



We looked to see how some people organise peace fairs, festivals and assemblies to communicate ideas about world peace. Others will be planting peace poles that share the message: 'Partnership for Peace, Dignity for all' in many different languages. Some will plant peace gardens. Everywhere people will try to cooperate together to build strong communities and bridges of understanding.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace



Peace be with you

Macmillan Cake Sale – September 28th 2015



At assembly we learned about the effects of Cancer on families and where we can go for help. Pupils were very keen to raise money for Macmillan Nurses and our Year Six held a cake sale for the rest of the school.

Lots more information about Macmillan can be found at macmillan.org.uk



Anyone with questions about cancer can call the Macmillan Support Line free on **0808 808 00 00** (Mon–Fri, 9am–8pm)

Pupils felt that it was their moral responsibility to help and support others in need. We raised £323 for Macmillan.

Bread and Fishes 12th October 2015



During our Cafod assembly, we thought about how we can share the resources of the world as there is enough food to share for everyone.

Our Cafod collection raised £180.



Generous God, we thank you for all your gifts. Help us to think of the needs of others. You show us how to love and share with everyone. We pray that we may truly share what we have, and so help our sisters and brothers throughout the world. Amen.



19th October 2015 – Missionary Sunday

How can we serve others? What is our Mission in life?

3rd November 2015- What does it mean to be British?

What makes up your personal identity? What makes you who you are?

What do you value?

What do we mean by British values? We will be exploring more about this over the coming weeks...

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

