

Religious Education Year 8	
Half term 1	<p>What is love?</p> <p>Pupils will explore the concepts of love and how these are shown within the family (storge), romantically (eros), with friends (fileos) and for humanity (agape). Particular focus will be placed on agape and Jesus' teaching about this type of love and pose the question 'Who is my neighbour?' The life of Saint Maximillian Kolbe will be examined in detail to discover the extraordinary sacrifice he made during World War 2 in order to put Jesus teachings into action. Pupils will learn how religious teachings influences the behaviour, actions and lives of people within a faith community.</p>
Half term 2	
Half term 3	<p>Charity?</p> <p>Pupils will investigate what is meant by charity by initially examining kindness and how they can make a difference to those around them by performing Random Acts of Kindness. Pupils will consider the differing motivations people who are charitable have and the differing outcomes that can be experienced by the giving and receiving of charity. Pupils will carry out their own research about a charity of their choice to discover in detail the way that money is collected, distributed and who the charity helps. The concept of giving and self service will be examined within the religions of Sikhism and Islam. Within Islam the belief in Zakah (giving) which is the Third Pillar of Islam will be explored. In addition Sewa which is the Sikh belief that all Sikhs should be prepared to give up some of their time, talents and energy to help others will be taught.</p>
Half term 4	
Half term 5	<p>Creation Theories</p> <p>This topic focuses on the scale of the universe and where we lie within it, but also where does God lie? It has a look at several religious creation stories in addition to evolution and the Big Bang theory of creation. The teleological argument is also explored using the reasoning of the philosopher, William Paley who tried to prove the existence of God. The final section of this topic will examine the existence of evil and suffering in the world from both a theist's perspective and an atheist's perspective. The following questions will be considered 'Does the existence of evil and suffering prove that God does not exist?' 'Does evil and suffering have a purpose?'</p>
Half term 6	<p>The above topic lasts for a term</p>
Homework expectations	<p>Students are expected to complete one homework per fortnight which will support students in consolidating learning from lessons. It may be learning keyword definitions, conducting research, presenting information taught in lessons in a variety of formats e.g. writing newspaper articles.</p>
By the time you finish key stage 3 you'll be...	<p>Able to gain important insights into your own beliefs and values as well as those represented in a variety of world religions and other world views being studied.</p>