Collective Worship - September 2026

This new school year starts early, with some schools opening at the end of August! Whatever your school's start date, September is a time for beginning again as children settle in to new classes — it's a time for us all to look forward with renewed hopes and expectations.

Our team are asking God to bless your children, families and schools this academic year, and pray that all school communities will be places of learning, peace, care and understanding.

This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout September, and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. We hope it is a useful resource for your family prayer time.

JESUS OUR PERFECT LEADER

In the week beginning 31 August, children will talk about what makes a good leader and consider qualities such as being trustworthy, leading by example, looking out for others and putting others first. Through the Gospel, children will hear the invitation to follow Jesus, our perfect leader (Matthew 16:21–27). They will have the opportunity to reflect on how Jesus leads by caring, guiding and that we can trust Him to always be with us.

As we all look ahead to the joys and challenges of the year, children will reflect on how they can trust in Jesus and choose to follow Him in everyday school life. They are invited to offer the beginning of the school year to Jesus and consider how they can follow Him through their words and actions.

With your child/ren, you may also like to…

- *Talk about what makes someone a good leader and someone it would be good to follow.*
- *Ask your child about their hopes and expectations of the school year and how they can rely on Jesus to be with them in the joys and challenges ahead.*
- *Pray together for help to follow Jesus through kind and caring choices.*

ACTIONS LOUDER THAN WORDS

In the week beginning 28 September, children will think about listening carefully and responding with their actions. Through a modern-day version of Jesus' parable of the 'Two Sons' (Matthew 21:28–32), children are encouraged to reflect on how what we do is more important than what we say we will do.

Children will also learn about St Thérèse of Lisieux, who showed that little actions of gratitude and helpfulness can make a big difference to others. They will be invited to consider how they can follow Jesus through their choices, words and actions.

With your child/ren, you may also like to…

- *Talk about the importance of doing something you say you will do, or a time when someone's actions spoke louder than their words.*
- *Discuss small acts of kindness your family could do this week.*
- *Watch and discuss the modern day parable with your child/ren 'A Tale of Two Brothers', available on the Parent Portal.*

TOGETHER WITH JESUS

The daily prayers for the second week of September focus on asking Jesus to bless the whole school community, including children, staff and families. Children will hear Jesus' invitation to be a part of making their school community a place of togetherness, filled with faith, hope and love. They will remember that they are not alone in their efforts — Jesus is always with us, guiding and encouraging us.

You may like to use this prayer in your family prayer time:

Lord Jesus,
Bless our school community
as we start our new term.
Help us to make this
a community of learning, peace,
care and understanding,
where we can grow in faith and love,
together with you.

Amen