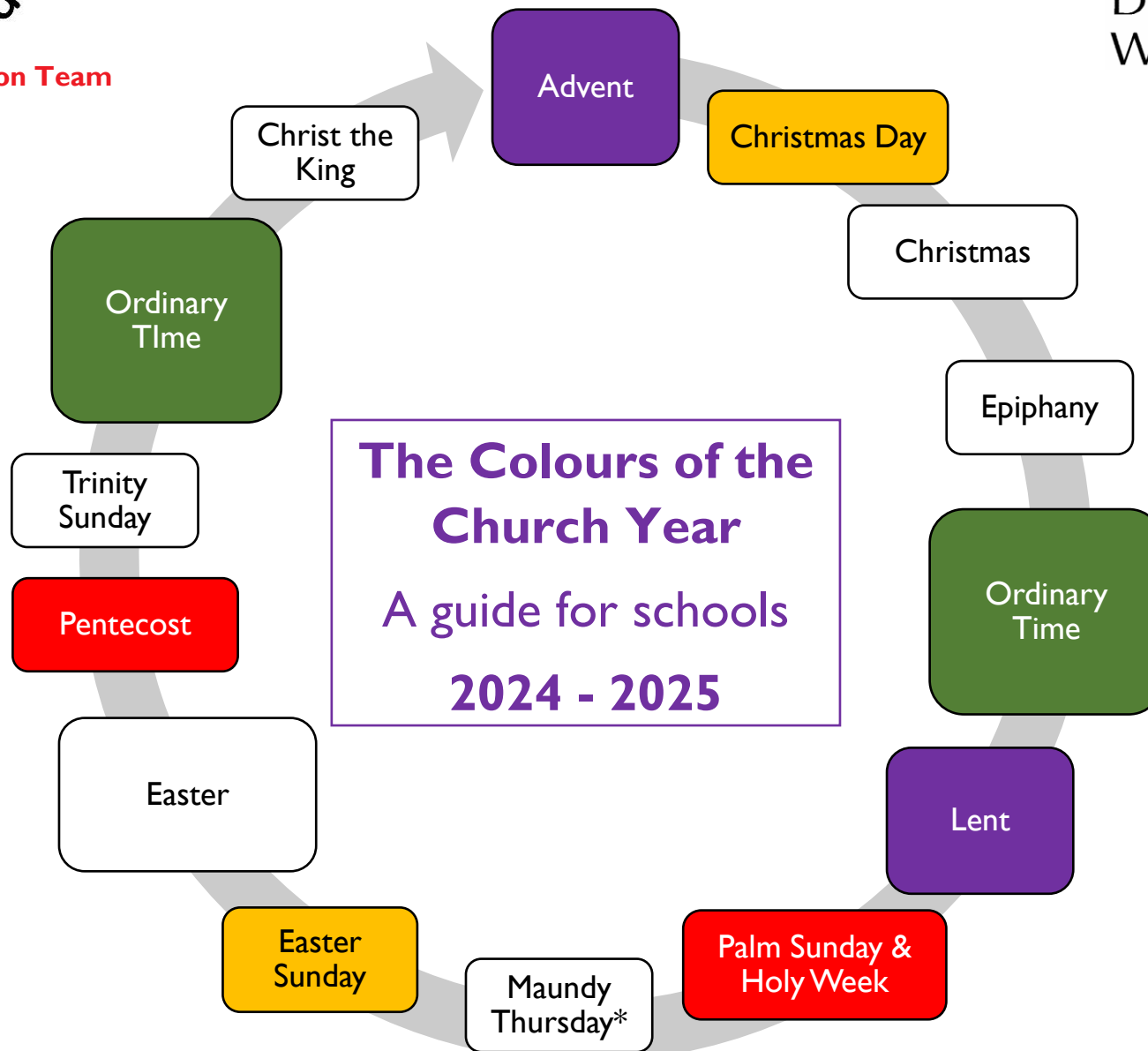
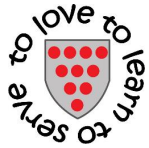


Diocesan Education Team



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
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## The Colours of the Church Year: a guide for schools 2024-25

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### The Anglican Church Year

Anglican churches follow a liturgical calendar. This is a pattern (liturgy) for their worship through the year. As a church school, this provides an ideal opportunity to mirror what is happening in your parish / local church. It also provides a colourful and visual way to mark the festivals throughout the year.

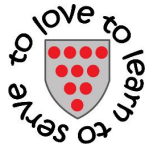
Most churches will use different coloured vestments (a priest's clothing) and altar cloths as signs of the season of the church year. In school, this can be mirrored through simply changing the colour of cloth on the worship table; or theme a whole display using the relevant colours. Soon you will find that the children recognise the colours and their meaning, that when they enter the worship space, they will notice the colours have changed and begin to make links between the seasons and the festivals throughout the year.

### The meaning of the colours (dates are coloured on the attached calendar)

<b>Green</b>	Used during 'Ordinary time' between the main festivals and seasons. This covers most of the year and can represent growth.
<b>Red</b>	Used to either mark saints' days where it represents their death as a martyr, or to represent the flames of the Holy Spirit (for Pentecost / Whitsun).
<b>White</b>	Represents being pure, in celebrations such as baptisms, weddings, and some funerals. Also used for celebrations either on its own or with gold. It is also used for saints who did not die as martyrs.
<b>Gold</b>	Key celebrations, for example Christmas Day and Easter Sunday. Provision is also made for gold days to be dressed in white.
<b>Purple</b>	Used for times of preparation and waiting, the reflective seasons. Key times are Advent, Lent and occasionally funerals.

### The Liturgical Calendar

The attached calendar is designed for the school year 2024-25. The church year starts at the beginning of Advent, and ends with the following Advent, completing a circle as shown on the front page. The colours used in worship are shown on the relevant days, any uncoloured dates are 'white' days. There are **twelve principal feast and holy days** in the church year, these are indicated in bold on the calendar. The main saints' days are also shown, but you do not need to mark all of them. If you use the main colour for the week, you can then pick out the key festivals for your school, especially those that mark a key part in Jesus's life or a transition in the year. You could also celebrate the patron saint's day for your school and / or church. Key festivals such as Christmas and Easter, fall in the holidays, meaning the children don't get to see the gold cloth for celebrations. A good way to mark these festivals would be to change the colour of the cloths as part of your end of term worship for Christmas and Easter.



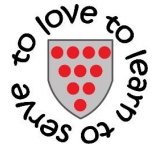
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\*On Maundy Thursday churches will often be stripped bare of any colour furnishings and decorations (coloured grey on the calendar), reminding us that Jesus was left alone to face the bare wooden cross. Churches will remain bare until Eater Sunday. You can download daily prayers and reading apps from <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps> to support your worship planning. \*\* Candlemas is also known as the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. \*\*\*For 2023 in the church year, provision is made to celebrate Harvest any time between 8<sup>th</sup> September and 20<sup>th</sup> October.

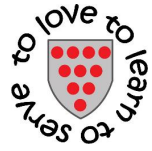
September 2024		October 2024		November 2024		December 2024		January 2025		February 2025	
1 Sun		1 Tue		1 Fri	All Saints' Day	1 Sun	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent	1 Wed	Naming of Christ	1 Sat	
2 Mon		2 Wed		2 Sat	All Souls' Day	2 Mon		2 Thu		2 Sun	Candlemas**
3 Tue		3 Thu		3 Sun		3 Tue		3 Fri		3 Mon	
4 Wed		4 Fri		4 Mon		4 Wed		4 Sat		4 Tue	
5 Thu		5 Sat		5 Tue		5 Thu		5 Sun		5 Wed	
6 Fri		6 Sun		6 Wed		6 Fri		6 Mon	The Epiphany	6 Thu	
7 Sat		7 Mon		7 Thu		7 Sat		7 Tue		7 Fri	
8 Sun	Harvest***	8 Tue		8 Fri		8 Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent	8 Wed	Baptism of Jesus	8 Sat	
9 Mon		9 Wed		9 Sat		9 Mon		9 Thu		9 Sun	
10 Tue		10 Thu		10 Sun	Remembrance Sunday	10 Tue		10 Fri		10 Mon	
11 Wed		11 Fri		11 Mon	Remembrance Day	11 Wed		11 Sat		11 Tue	
12 Thu		12 Sat		12 Tue		12 Thu		12 Sun		12 Wed	
13 Fri		13 Sun		13 Wed		13 Fri		13 Mon		13 Thu	
14 Sat	Holy Cross Day	14 Mon		14 Thu		14 Sat		14 Tue		14 Fri	



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15 Sun		15 Tue		15 Fri		15 Sun	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent	15 Wed		15 Sat	
16 Mon		16 Wed		16 Sat		16 Mon		16 Thu		16 Sun	
17 Tue		17 Thu		17 Sun		17 Tue		17 Fri		17 Mon	
18 Wed		18 Fri	St Luke the Evangelist	18 Mon		18 Wed		18 Sat		18 Tue	
19 Thu		19 Sat		19 Tue		19 Thu		19 Sun		19 Wed	
20 Fri		20 Sun		20 Wed		20 Fri		20 Mon		20 Thu	
21 Sat	St Matthew	21 Mon		22 Thu		21 Sat		22 Tue		21 Fri	
22 Sun		22 Tue		22 Fri		22 Sun	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent	22 Wed		22 Sat	
23 Mon		23 Wed		23 Sat		23 Mon		23 Thu		23 Sun	
24 Tue		24 Thu		24 Sun	Christ the King	24 Tue	Christmas Eve	24 Fri		24 Mon	
25 Wed		25 Fri		25 Mon		25 Wed	Christmas Day	25 Sat	Conversion of St Paul	25 Tue	
26 Thu		26 Sat		26 Tue		26 Thu	St Stephen's Day	26 Sun		26 Wed	
27 Fri		27 Sun		27 Wed		27 Fri	St John the Evangelist	27 Mon		27 Thu	
28 Sat		28 Mon	St Simon & St Jude	28 Thu		28 Sat	Holy Innocents	28 Tue		28 Fri	
29 Sun	Michaelmas	29 Tue	Bible Sunday	29 Fri		29 Sun		29 Wed			
30 Mon		30 Wed		30 Sat	St Andrew	30 Mon	St Egwin	30 Thu			
		31 Thu				31 Tue		31 Fri			

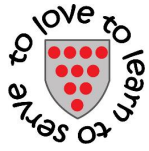


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March 2025		April 2025		May 2025		June 2025		July 2025		August 2025	
<b>1 Sat</b>	St David	<b>1 Tue</b>		<b>1 Thu</b>	St Philip & St James	<b>1 Sun</b>		<b>1 Tue</b>		<b>1 Fri</b>	
<b>2 Sun</b>		<b>2 Wed</b>		<b>2 Fri</b>		<b>2 Mon</b>		<b>2 Wed</b>		<b>2 Sat</b>	
<b>3 Mon</b>		<b>3 Thu</b>		<b>3 Sat</b>		<b>3 Tue</b>		<b>3 Thu</b>	St Thomas the Apostle	<b>3 Sun</b>	
<b>4 Tue</b>	Shrove Tuesday	<b>4 Fri</b>		<b>4 Sun</b>		<b>4 Wed</b>		<b>4 Fri</b>		<b>4 Mon</b>	
<b>5 Wed</b>	Ash Wednesday	<b>5 Sat</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	<b>5 Mon</b>		<b>5 Thu</b>		<b>5 Sat</b>		<b>5 Tue</b>	
<b>6 Thu</b>		<b>6 Sun</b>		<b>6 Tue</b>		<b>6 Fri</b>		<b>6 Sun</b>		<b>6 Wed</b>	The Transfiguration
<b>7 Fri</b>		<b>7 Mon</b>		<b>7 Wed</b>		<b>7 Sat</b>		<b>7 Mon</b>		<b>7 Thu</b>	
<b>8 Sat</b>		<b>8 Tue</b>		<b>8 Thu</b>		<b>8 Sun</b>	Pentecost	<b>8 Tue</b>		<b>8 Fri</b>	
<b>9 Sun</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent	<b>9 Wed</b>		<b>9 Fri</b>		<b>9 Mon</b>		<b>9 Wed</b>		<b>9 Sat</b>	
<b>10 Mon</b>		<b>10 Thu</b>		<b>10 Sat</b>		<b>10 Tue</b>		<b>10 Thu</b>		<b>10 Sun</b>	
<b>11 Tue</b>		<b>11 Fri</b>		<b>11 Sun</b>		<b>11 Wed</b>	St Barnabas	<b>11 Fri</b>		<b>11 Mon</b>	
<b>12 Wed</b>		<b>12 Sat</b>		<b>12 Mon</b>		<b>12 Thu</b>		<b>12 Sat</b>		<b>12 Tue</b>	
<b>13 Thu</b>		<b>13 Sun</b>	Palm Sunday	<b>13 Tue</b>		<b>13 Fri</b>		<b>13 Sun</b>		<b>13 Wed</b>	
<b>14 Fri</b>		<b>14 Mon</b>	Holy Week	<b>14 Wed</b>	St Matthias the Apostle	<b>14 Sat</b>		<b>14 Mon</b>		<b>14 Thu</b>	
<b>15 Sat</b>		<b>15 Tue</b>	Holy Week	<b>15 Thu</b>		<b>15 Sun</b>	Trinity Sunday/ Fathers' Day	<b>15 Tue</b>		<b>15 Fri</b>	Blessed Virgin Mary
<b>16 Sun</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent	<b>16 Wed</b>	Holy Week	<b>16 Fri</b>		<b>16 Mon</b>		<b>16 Wed</b>		<b>16 Sat</b>	
<b>17 Mon</b>	St Patrick	<b>17 Thu</b>	Maundy Thursday	<b>17 Sat</b>		<b>17 Tue</b>		<b>17 Thu</b>		<b>17 Sun</b>	
<b>18 Tue</b>		<b>18 Fri</b>	Good Friday	<b>18 Sun</b>		<b>18 Wed</b>		<b>18 Fri</b>		<b>18 Mon</b>	



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19 Wed		19 Sat	Easter Saturday	19 Mon		19 Thu	Corpus Christi	19 Sat		19 Tue	
20 Thu		20 Sun	<b>Easter Day</b>	20 Tue		20 Fri		20 Sun	St Margaret of Antioch	20 Wed	
22 Fri		21 Mon		22 Wed		21 Sat		21 Mon		22 Thu	
22 Sat		22 Tue		22 Thu		22 Sun		22 Tue	Mary Magdalene	22 Fri	
23 Sun	3rd Sunday of Lent	23 Wed	St George	23 Fri		23 Mon		23 Wed		23 Sat	
24 Mon		24 Thu		24 Sat		24 Tue	Birth of John the Baptist	24 Thu		24 Sun	St Bartholomew
25 Tue	<b>The Annunciation</b>	25 Fri	St Mark the Evangelist	25 Sun		25 Wed		25 Fri	St James the Apostle	25 Mon	
26 Wed		26 Sat		26 Mon		26 Thu		26 Sat		26 Tue	
27 Thu		27 Sun		27 Tue		27 Fri		27 Sun		27 Wed	
28 Fri		28 Mon		28 Wed		28 Sat		28 Mon		28 Thu	
29 Sat		29 Tue		29 Thu	<b>Ascension Day</b>	29 Sun	St Peter & St Paul	29 Tue		29 Fri	
30 Sun	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent/ Mothering Sunday	30 Wed		30 Fri		30 Mon		30 Wed		30 Sat	
31 Mon				31 Sat	Mary visit to Elizabeth			31 Thu		31 Sun	