



INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF A SCHOOL VISIT

GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOLS AND CHURCH

STORIES AND CELEBRATIONS

THE CHURCH AS A BUILDING AND PEOPLE

SIGNS AND SYMBOLS

CHURCHYARD DETECTIVES

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF A SCHOOL VISIT TO THE CHURCH

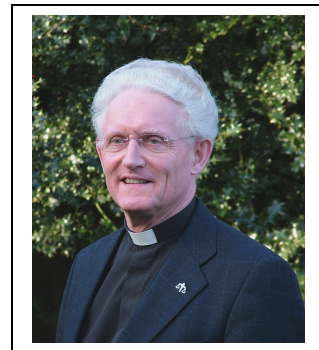
Church visits offer a variety of experiences to the visitor but within a visit by a school group, the following aspects should be included

- The Church as an historic building
- The Church as a place of worship for Christians

Essentially a visit offers learning experiences that are linked to aspects of the Religious Education (RE) syllabus or the wider curriculum. Visiting a Christian place of worship might leave a lasting impression on pupils and we need to find ways by which they will remember and retain memories of their visit. Whatever the stated purpose of a school visit to the church, time should be allowed for a few moments of quiet reflection before leaving.

Any visit to All Saints' Church should be planned with the Rector who will encourage schools to take advantage of the detailed knowledge of members of the church. Alongside the teacher they will help to make the visit both an educational and spiritual experience, thus embracing both aspects of the aims of Religious Education.

- to learn about the church and to learn its significance for Christians.



As part of the teaching of Christianity within an RE syllabus, schools are encouraged to visit a local Christian place of worship. The best learning from such a visit comes from an integrated approach where the relevance of the learning is obvious to both staff and pupils. Outcomes will vary according to the ages and aptitudes of the pupils, so some of the following material will possibly be adapted for the specific needs of a group of pupils. The aim should always be to encourage active participation and involve pupils in the art of discovery.

Although RE is the main focus of the following suggestions, any follow-up work in school can be developed through a number of curriculum areas. Environmental Studies, music, art, creative or factual writing, poetry or indeed aspects of spiritual and moral development, could all reinforce the learning and relevance of a church visit.

GUIDANCE FOR PLANNING A VISIT TO ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

SCHOOL

- Contact the Rector to confirm the date and timing of a proposed church visit (Tel: 01883 624125)
- Give a clear indication of the focus of the visit
- Give details of the age group and numbers of pupils and adults
- Indicate if there are pupils with special educational needs or disabilities that need to be catered for
- Ascertain arrangements for toilet facilities
- Discuss the roles of the teacher and church representative during the visit to All Saints'
- Reassure the Church that the school staff will be responsible for pupil behaviour during the visit
- Ask for artefacts to be made available that are relevant to the aim of the visit
- Bring a digital camera
- Before the visit ensure that all adults are briefed about their involvement in any group activity
- For teachers to be able to offer the best learning experiences for pupils, it is desirable to arrange a visit to the Church prior to the school visit
- Pupils should be prepared for a visit to any place of worship by discussing issues of respect and appropriate behaviour
- Schools should understand that All Saints' Church is part of the Warlingham, Chelsham and Farley Team Ministry. The Church has a commitment to ecumenism and works with the local Methodist Church and the Catholic Church of St. Ambrose.
- Pupils of all faiths are welcome at All Saints' Church and it is incumbent upon the school to prepare all pupils for a visit
- Schools are advised to that copies of:-
A Guide and Short History to All Saints' Church and
A Walk Through the Churchyard - are available from the Rector.

CHURCH

- Ensure the church is warm and welcoming!
- Be well briefed as to the purpose of the visit and the ages of the pupils
- Determine who is leading the visit and the roles of both the teacher and the church representative
- Be available as a resource if necessary
- Be aware that for some pupils this will be their first visit to a church and it therefore should be a positive experience for them
- Know how to respond to answers to questions that to you may seem wrong. An attempted answer is a positive response! Respond sensitively with an encouragement to rethink the answer and you will probably get a more appropriate response!
- Make sure the necessary artefacts are available in the right places according to the script. Children learn a lot by handling things but 'precious' items should be introduced as such.
- Share your knowledge and enthusiasm for the building and if appropriate indicate that you are a worshipping member at All Saints' - from which additional questions might evolve!
- Encourage schools to share any follow-up work with the church. Suggest that a display of photographs and subsequent work done in school will enhance community links!



Rector in his vestments

STORIES AND CELEBRATIONS

SUITABLE FOR KEY STAGE 1 PUPILS

LEARNING ABOUT CHRISTIAN STORIES AND CELEBRATIONS THAT RELATE TO THE CHURCH



Group round the FONT and introduce pupils to the ceremony that the church offers to families who want any member of their family to be baptised into the church family. The term christening can be used instead of baptism. Baptism is a Christian celebration for the family and their friends.

ARTEFACTS -a small bowl of water, shell and a baptismal candle Ask the children if they remember going to a baptism and what happened.

Did the baby wear a special robe? Ask for volunteers to act the parts of the parents and godparents as the leader/teacher takes the role of the priest.

Briefly explain the role of the priest. After a prayer, the priest makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the one who is being baptised. Then he/she asks the name of the child and sprinkles water onto the child's forehead, saying '*I baptise you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*'

A lighted candle is given to either the parents or godparents on behalf of the child with the words 'Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father'. Ask the children if they can work out what that means.

Finally look at the window behind the font. Identify Jesus at home with his parents, Mary and Joseph in the carpenter's shop at Nazareth.

Move to the display of crib figures and use them to retell the Christmas story. Talk about the central figures of Mary and Joseph and how they travelled to Bethlehem to have their baby - Jesus. Ask the children to place the shepherds in the stable.

Talk about the arrival of the Wise Men and the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh they brought to Jesus.

Sing a song that you learnt at school
last Christmas that tells
the Christian story.

In All Saints' Church families come
to church to build the crib scene at
Christmas.

Why don't you come next year?



Move to the LECTERN.

Look at the eagle with outspread wings. Explain that the Bible is placed on the lectern and the people in church listen to stories and events from the Bible. Listen to this story from St Luke's gospel:

Jesus told this story "There was once a shepherd who had a 100 sheep and at the end of the day found that one was missing. He left the 99 sheep with the sheepdog and went looking for the sheep that was lost. When he found it, he put it on his shoulders and went back with great joy to the rest of his flock. When he got home, he called together his friends and neighbours and said to them, 'Be happy with me for I have found the sheep that was lost'. Jesus said, 'I tell you God is just as pleased when one person chooses to follow him and becomes part of the Christian family'.

Take the pupils to the ALTAR. Explain that Christians remember the story of Jesus' death and resurrection every Sunday when they receive bread and wine - the celebration of Holy Communion.

ARTEFACTS - bread or wafers to taste and a bunch of grapes.
Dress either an adult or a child in a chasuble and stole - as a priest.

Jesus had supper with his friends on the night before he died. He broke the bread and asked them every time they shared bread together to remember how his body was broken on the cross (priest shares the wafers). Then they shared a cup of wine and he asked them to remember how his blood was spilt on the cross (priest shares the grapes). Look at the window behind the altar showing how Jesus died. Can you spot the grapes in the window?

Turn to face the wall painting of ST CHRISTOPHER. It is over 500 years old. Look very carefully and describe what you see. Wall paintings and pictures in windows helped people to understand stories when they couldn't read. Listen to the legend of St Christopher:

*Christopher was a very tall and strong man.
When he became a Christian, he devoted
his life to carrying travellers across the river
near to where he lived.
One day a small child asked to be carried
across.
When Christopher got to the middle, the child
became so heavy that Christopher staggered
under the weight.
When he complained he was told that he
had carried the weight of the world
and the one who had created it!
He then became known as
the 'Christ bearer' or Christopher.*





Take the children to the back of the church to sit near the votive candle stand.



Talk about the purpose of a kneeler or hassock.

Why do Christians usually kneel to pray?

Read the prayer that Jesus taught his friends. It is called the Lord's Prayer.

Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen

People have been praying or thinking in this church for at least 750 years. An adult can light a candle. Ask the pupils to keep quiet and remember someone they love/ someone who is ill/ someone who is happy or sad or themselves.

Explain that this group is now part of the story of this church!

Pupils can decide what three things they have enjoyed seeing during their visit. Go back and look at them again. Make three small sketches to take back to school.

Use the digital camera and add photographs to a display about your visit to All Saints' Church.

THE CHURCH AS A BUILDING AND PEOPLE

TO KNOW ABOUT THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY PEOPLE WHO WORK AND WORSHIP AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

TO DISCOVER THE HISTORY OF PEOPLE WHOSE LIVES ARE CELEBRATED IN ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

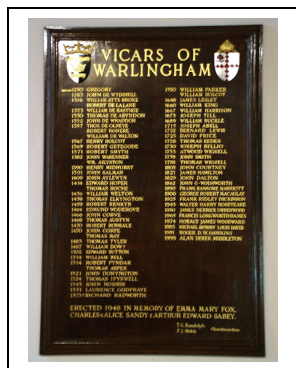
It is sometimes assumed that a church is just a building - one that has a prominent place in a town or village, but the church must also be considered as the people, those who worship in the building and live Christian lives in the community. Such people are often referred to as members of the 'Body of Christ' or Christians. In other words, they live their lives doing things that would please God by obeying His commandments.

Prior to your visit to All Saints', prepare questions to ask the Rector about his work as a priest. Don't forget to ask about those who support the church by volunteering their time and talents. Ask the Rector to introduce himself and to fill in details of his work that haven't been covered by the pupils' questions. Perhaps he could describe a typical week in his diary.

Following this interview, direct pupils to find what evidence there is in the church of vicars and rectors who have served at All Saints' Church.

Before you look around the church, work out the compass points knowing that, the ALTAR faces EAST.

To find out information about the history of the church, pupils need to be guided around to ascertain the stories associated with the people who feature in windows and on memorials. To get accurate responses use the leader's expertise to fill in the worksheets as you move around the church.



How long has All Saints' been active as a parish church?

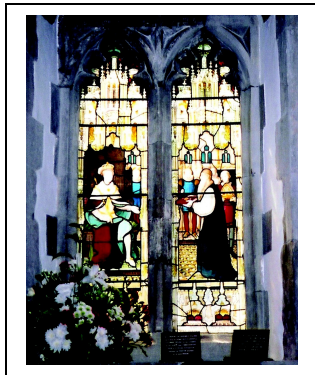
How many vicars or rectors have served in this church?

How many people have been ordained from All Saints'?

What does ordained mean? Ask if you don't know.

Talk about how a priest is a teacher.

Ask your leader about leadership in the Church of England.



Move to the window that identifies Archbishop Cranmer. Why is a bishop or archbishop thought of as a shepherd?

What symbol does a bishop hold that suggests his role as a shepherd?

Why was Archbishop Cranmer important to All Saints'? Sketch a bishop with the symbols that identify his role in the church.

Find the ST CHRISTOPHER wall painting near the altar. It is over 500 years old. Look very carefully and describe what you see. Wall paintings and pictures in windows helped people to understand stories when they couldn't read. Listen to the legend of St Christopher:

Christopher was a very tall and strong man. When he became a Christian, he devoted his life to carrying travellers across the river near to where he lived. One day a small child asked to be carried across. When Christopher got to the middle, the child became so heavy that Christopher staggered under the weight. When he complained he was told that he had carried the weight of the world and the one who had created it! He then became known as the 'Christ bearer' or Christopher.

Find evidence and make notes of Christians who are remembered in this church.

Look at the war memorial to the right of the pulpit. Make notes on the dates of the war in which they died.

Near the entrance of the church, find another memorial to those who died in another war. Make similar notes.

Why might these people be remembered in All Saints' Church?



In the west wall, look carefully at the details in the commemorative window to Richard Roberts and his daughter Lilian. They were killed by a bomb in 1917. Why might the family pet have been included in a family window? Draw this pet! Think about the love you have for the pets that make up part of your family.

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In the south wall of the Church, there is a window that commemorates the early death in 1911 of Dorothy, daughter of Sir Joseph Swan. He invented the electric light bulb. Make notes of how important that invention has been for the whole world.

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What is your understanding of the symbolism of Jesus as the light of the world?

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Find another person that is important to this Church. Write three things that tell you about him/her and their Christian life.

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SIGNS AND SYMBOLS

PUPILS CAN RECOGNISE AND TALK ABOUT SOME
SYMBOLS IN THE CHURCH KEY STAGE 1

PUPILS CAN IDENTIFY CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS AND
EXPLAIN THEIR MEANING KEY STAGE 2

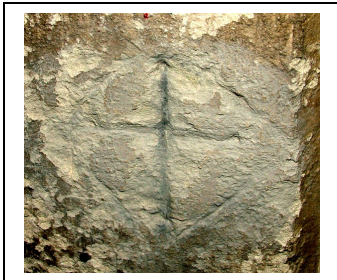
Explain the similarities and differences between a sign and a symbol.

A sign is often an instruction without words

A symbol is a sign or object with a significant meaning

Christian symbols that can be seen in All Saints' Church will often be recognised in other Christian places of worship and will have the same symbolism.

One of the most important signs for Christians is the CROSS.



This is because of its significance in the life and death of Jesus. Note down the different crosses you see during your visit. Did you notice the cross, carved in stone, on the right side of the door as you came into the church? If not look for it on your way out. It's called a Consecration Cross.

Move to the east end of the church. This is called the sanctuary. What is the symbolism of facing east for Christians? (Sunrise/Resurrection)

Look at the window behind the altar. Crucifixion was the common death for criminals in Jesus' time on earth. On which day was Jesus crucified? Explain some of the events of Holy Week that led up to His death. On which day do Christians celebrate Jesus rising from the dead? Can you name the figures on either side of Jesus in the window? Who was Mary? Who was John? Can you think of the symbolism of 1) a crucifix and 2) an empty cross?



Where might a cross be found apart from inside a church?

The ALTAR is the focus for the service of Holy Communion or the Mass or the Lord's Supper, where symbols of BREAD and WINE are very important.

- Make sure that a paten, chalice, bread/wafers and grapes are available.



The leader/teacher should explain the events of the Last Supper:

On the night before he died, Jesus had supper with his friends. It took place in the context of the Jewish Passover and was held in an upper room. During the meal, Jesus took the bread that was on the table and broke it. He said to his disciples, "whenever you come together for a meal and share bread remember my body that was broken for you". Then he took the cup of wine and said, "whenever you drink wine together, remember my blood that was spilt for you". He of course knew that he was about to die and that this would be the last time he would be sharing a meal with his disciples. The disciples of course still hadn't understood this and so must have been confused by Jesus' words. For more than 2000 years, Christians have re-enacted this meal called Holy Communion and used Jesus' words to remember the events of that Last Supper as he asked them to.

Move to the FONT at the south side of the Church. The word is derived from the word fount or fountain - a source of water.

- Have water/shell/candle and a stole available.

In All Saints', the font was originally sited where the porch now is - where you enter the building. What might be the symbolism of placing the font by the door, where a person starts their life in the Christian family? (Door - enter the Church. Baptism - enter the Christian family)

Has anyone been to a baptism or christening?

What do you remember about it?

Parents bring a child to baptism and other adults (godparents) support them. They promise to bring the child up as a Christian - to learn about God and Jesus, to pray and live according to the teachings of the Bible.

In short, to Love God and love your neighbour. Older children and adults who are baptised make these promises for themselves.

Re-enact a baptism with the leader/teacher taking the role of the priest and the parents and godparents chosen from the group.

The priest makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the child. This is the invisible sign of belonging to God's family, the church. Then he/she blesses the water and sprinkles it, often using a shell, three times over the child's head using the words '*I baptise you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*'. The parents or godparents are then given a lighted candle for the baby with the words '*Shine as light in the world to the glory of God the Father*'. What might these symbolic words mean? Recap on the symbols that have been learnt about so far.



Look at the window behind the font. What clues are in this window as to the identity of this family?

The children of a woman, who once worshipped at All Saints' Church, gave the money for this window as a memorial. Discuss what a memorial is.

Remember this when you look around the church later on.

Focus on the LECTERN - the place from where the Bible is read during a church service. The Bible is often referred to as *Good News*. What words can help us understand about an eagle? (powerful, strength, majestic) This eagle is resting on a ball - what is that symbolic of? (world) So the

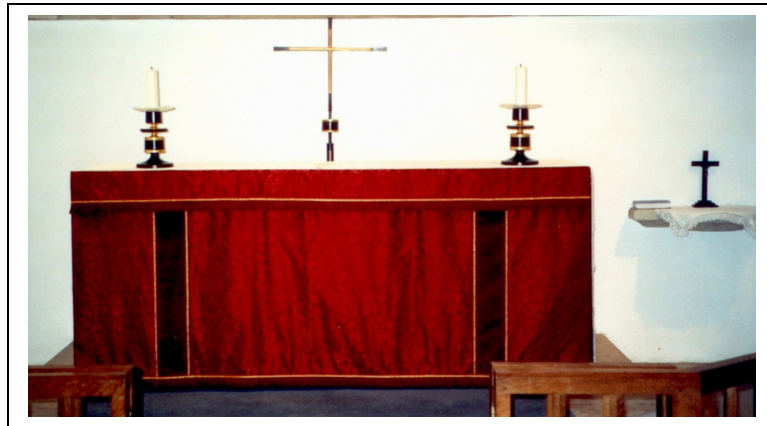
eagle with spread wings is symbolically taking the Good News of the Bible to everyone in the world.

Sit in the front pews where a set of stoles can be seen. The priest wears these when he/she takes a service.

Purple in ADVENT and LENT. These are times of preparation before a major Christian festival when Christians think about their faith and pray especially about living their lives as Jesus would have wanted.

White or gold at CHRISTMAS and EASTER the major Christian festivals. Colours representing joy and celebration.

Red at PENTECOST and on SAINTS DAYS. Red because at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit gave power to the early Christians, flames of fire were seen as a symbol of power and energy. On Saints Days, red is worn because often saints died the death of a martyr and were killed because they were Christians, so red represents blood.



Green at TRINITY. This season lasts for many weeks and is a time when Christians grow in the knowledge and understating of their faith. What does green represent in nature? Are there similar symbols of growth?

ACTIVITIES ABOUT SIGNS AND SYMBOLS IN THE CHURCH

- The heraldic symbol of All Saints' is three scrolls and a crown. Sometimes it is accompanied by the words *SANCTUS, SANCTUS, SANCTUS*, which means Holy, Holy, Holy. Find and sketch one of these symbols.
- INRI are the initials of the Latin words for '*Jesus of Nazareth King of the Jews*'. Name the place where you can see these letters.
- Archbishop Cranmer is shown in the Prayer Book window, near to the altar. To whom is he presenting the Book of Common Prayer? What date did this event occur?
- A service was televised from this church on 24th September 1950. Why was this service special?
- The eagle is a symbol of..... and in this church is used to hold the Christian holy book, the..... The stand is called a



- In a stained glass window high up on the west wall, you can see a dove. In church it is the symbol of the Holy Spirit. Do you know of another symbol is associated with a dove?.....
- Which three symbols are linked to baptism or christening?
- Which two symbols are linked to Holy Communion?
- What is the difference between a cross and a crucifix?

What is a memorial? There are several in the church. Find one that interests you and either sketch it or write some details about why it is here.

The church's year is divided into special times and the priest wears coloured robes that symbolise these seasons. Put the colour with the season

ADVENT & LENT.....
 CHRISTMAS & EASTER.....
 PENTECOST & SAINTS' DAYS.....
 TRINITY.....

If All Saints' Church has been here since 1250, think about the number of people who have worshipped here. Sit somewhere by yourself and write five words that describe your feelings at being in this church today.

When you return to school, you might want to do something that reminds you of your visit. You could design a stained glass window, either an abstract window using the colours of the church year or a picture of the church or a picture of something from your visit that stays in your memory.

You could write a poem. You might like to design a kneeler (hassock) that has a Christian symbol on it.

Why not ask if you can display your work in All Saints' Church?

You may want to come back and join others from Warlingham who worship at All Saints' Church every Sunday!

CHURCHYARD DETECTIVES

LEARNING ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH ALL SAINTS' CHURCH IS SITUATED

This Church has been here in Warlingham since 1250. Before you explore the churchyard talk about how things are different in the village today.

- Churches are buildings made to last. What materials were needed to build this church? What type of craftsmen would have built All Saints' Church? Do you think they knew why they were building this church?
- Sketch the shape of All Saints' Church as seen from the outside.
- Discuss with the leader of your group why churches generally are large and tall buildings.
- Why are the stained glass windows less impressive from the outside of a church?
- What historical function did a bell have in a church? Can you think of reasons why bells might be less important today?
- What signs are there outside the church that tells a visitor about All Saints'? Make notes to remind you.

Visit the churchyard by following the path to the left of the door. Bring your magnifying glasses, digital cameras and clipboards. Most importantly use your eyes and ears and you will be ready to start your detective work.

Remember to respect the church and its churchyard. It is a very important place for relatives whose family members are buried here. People generally like to come here to walk around, be quiet and remember their loved ones.

You will notice that some areas are well kept by volunteers from All Saints' Church but also there are parts that are left so that wild flora and fauna will flourish. The church is encouraging the growth of an ecological sanctuary. Why is that important?



Look for the oldest tree in the churchyard. You will recognise it because it is hollow. It is a YEW tree (*taxus baccata*). It measures 9.2 metres round the trunk and is about 2400 years old. The word 'taxus' comes from the Celtic word for arrow. King Edward 1st (1272-1307) decreed that yew trees should be planted in all English churchyards to ensure a plentiful supply of wood for longbows. In those days archers valued yew wood for its strength and flexibility. Yew trees are evergreen and native to the northern hemisphere.

- Take a photograph of a group in front of the tree. Draw the tree or find another yew tree to draw by identifying the leaves. (There is one on the left as you enter from Church Road).
- The yew is an evergreen tree. What does that mean? Christians believe in life after death with God in heaven. Do you think there is a symbolic link? Talk with your leader/teacher about this.
- Keep still and listen for any bird songs. Is there any evidence of birds nesting in the churchyard? How must they be respected? If you are still enough you maybe able to photograph a bird and identify it back at school from a book.
- Can you spot the most modern addition to the churchyard? It relates to the last activity! Draw it.
- Draw or collect from the ground five different leaves. Identify them back at school if you don't know their names.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH WARLINGHAM THE BUILDING AND THE PEOPLE

Welcome to All Saints' Church, which is part of a Team Ministry that includes the churches in Warlingham, Chelsham and Farleigh. There is a strong emphasis on ecumenism and there are many positive links with the Methodist Church and the Catholic Church of St. Ambrose in Warlingham.

It is sometimes assumed that a church is just a building - one that has a prominent place in a town or village, but the church must also be considered as the people, those who worship in the building and live Christian lives in the community. Such people are often referred to as members of the 'Body of Christ' or Christians. In other words, they live their lives doing things that would please God by obeying His commandments.

The Church has produced *A Guide and Short History to All Saints' Church* as well as a publication entitled *A Walk Through the Churchyard*. These books will give you information about the history of the church as well as telling the stories about the people who are featured in the windows and on the memorials.

The altar faces east so at the west end of the church find out:

How long has All Saints' been active as a parish church?

How many vicars or rectors have served in this church?

How many people have been ordained from All Saints'?

Towards the altar, you will notice a window that identifies ARCHBISHOP CRANMER. What symbol does the bishop hold that suggests his role as a shepherd?

Why is a bishop or archbishop thought of as a shepherd?

Why was Archbishop Cranmer important to All Saints' Church?

Who is the present Archbishop of Canterbury?

Opposite the Cranmer window, find the wall painting of ST CHRISTOPHER. It is over 500 years old. Wall paintings and pictures in windows helped people to understand stories when they couldn't read.

The following tells the legend of St Christopher.

Christopher was a very tall and strong man. When he became a Christian, he devoted his life to carrying travellers across the river near to where he lived. One day a small child asked to be carried across. When Christopher got to the middle of the river, the child became so heavy that Christopher staggered under the weight. When he complained he was told that he had carried the weight of the world and the one who had created it! He then became known as the 'Christ bearer' or Christopher.

Find evidence of Christians who are remembered in this church.
Look at the war memorial to the right of the pulpit.

In which war did these men die?

Near the church entrance, find another memorial to those who died in a different war.

Which war was this?

When do we especially remember men and women who died or were injured in wars?

What symbol do many people wear to remember them? Draw this symbol.

In the west wall of the church, look carefully at the details in the commemorative window to Richard Roberts and his daughter Lilian. They were killed by a bomb in 1917.

Draw the family pet.

Think about the love you have for the pets in your family.

In the south wall of the church, there is a window that commemorates the early death of Dorothy, the daughter of Sir Joseph Swan. He invented the electric light bulb.

How important has that invention been for the world?

What is your understanding of the symbolism of Jesus as the light of the world?

The heraldic symbol of All Saints' is three scrolls and a crown. Sometimes it is accompanied by the words *SANCTUS, SANCTUS, SANCTUS*, which means Holy, Holy, Holy.

Find and sketch one of these symbols.

INRI are the initials of the Latin words for '*Jesus of Nazareth King of the Jews*'.

Name the place where you can see these letters.

Find the lectern, which is in the shape of an eagle. The eagle is a symbol of..... and in this church is used to hold the Christian holy book, the Draw the eagle.

In a stained glass window high up on the west wall of the church, you can see a dove. In church, it is the symbol of the Holy Spirit;
but what other symbol is associated with a dove?

Find the font. What is a font used for?

Have you been baptised?

If so what are the names of your godparents?

Go up to the altar at the east end of the church. What Christian story is shown in the windows over the altar?

What day do Christians remember Jesus' death?

What day do Christians remember Jesus' resurrection?

If All Saints' Church has been here since 1250, think about the number of people who have worshipped here. Sit somewhere quietly and describe your feelings at being in this church today.

Go outside the church and be a CHURCHYARD DETECTIVE!

The church has been here in Warlingham since 1250. Before you explore the churchyard, think about how things are different in the village today.

Churches are buildings that are made to last. What materials were used to build this church?

Do you think the builders knew why they were building All Saints' Church?

Why are the stained glass windows less impressive from the outside of the church?

What historical function did a bell have in a church?

Why might bells be less important today?

Visit the churchyard by following the path to the left of the church door. Use your eyes and ears to be a good detective!

Remember to respect the church and churchyard, as it is a very important place for relatives whose family members are buried here. People generally like to come here to walk around, be quiet and remember their loved ones.

You will notice that some areas are well kept by volunteers from the church but also there are parts that are left so that wild flora and fauna will flourish. The church is encouraging the growth of an ecological sanctuary.

Look for the oldest tree in the churchyard. You will recognise it because it is hollow. It is a YEW tree (*taxus baccata*). It measures 9.2 metres round the trunk and is about 2400 years old. The word 'taxus' comes from the Celtic word for arrow. King Edward 1st (1272-1307) decreed that yew trees should be planted in all English churchyards to ensure a plentiful supply of wood for longbows. In those days archers valued yew wood for its strength and flexibility. Yew trees are evergreen and native to the northern hemisphere.

Take a photograph of someone standing in the hollow tree. Draw the tree.

The yew is an evergreen tree. What does that mean?

Christians believe in life after death with God in heaven. Do you think there is a symbolic link? Talk about this with an adult.

Draw or collect from the ground three different leaves. Identify them at home from a book if you don't know their names!

Find a tombstone that tells you something about the person buried there. Is there an epitaph to help you?