



Sunshine Academy
Medium Term Planning



Subject: RE	Year Group: 2	Term: Spring 2/Summer 1	Theme: Symbols of Easter: What does Easter mean to Christians?	
Prior Learning: In EYFS children have looked a range of festivals and celebrations from a variety of different faiths and cultures. They have experiences stories from different faiths and have explored British values through our Sunshine values. In Y1 children have explored cycles of the year through creations, harvest and giving thanks. They have looked at celebrations known to them within British culture and Christianity – birthdays, weddings, christenings and Christmas. They have explored what it means to be a Christian and why God is important to Christians. They have also explored Easter in simple terms. Children in Year 1 have also explored Sikhism. In Autumn term and Spring 1 they have begun to explore the Islamic faith.				
Skills to be taught:	Planned Learning Experiences:		Vocabulary:	Resources
I can name and identify some signs of new life from my own experience. I can talk about and recognise a ‘fresh start’ in a story.	<u>Lesson 1 (60 mins):</u> Flashback – Show the children some symbols of Christianity – cross, bible, image of a church – what can the children recall about the items. Go for a class walk on the playground or just outside of school, looking for signs of spring. You could examine seeds and bulbs before and after growth, discuss the development of a butterfly, look at pictures of baby animals etc. Share PowerPoint – Signs of new life at Easter. Watch video about Spring if going out is not possible or additional observation is needed. How spring affects plants and animals - BBC Teach Recording – Children to draw some signs or examples of new life/Spring – flowers, baby animals, new baby, frog spawn, eggs etc. Use the lines to write about signs of new life. Explain that Spring and the new life seen around this time of year is often seen as a fresh start. Read and share a story of a new start from New Testament. A good example is the story of Zacchaeus, found in Luke 19:1-10. Children can talk about how these sentences might end: ‘I liked this story because...’ ‘At first Zacchaeus was...’ ‘Zacchaeus changed because...’ ‘It was a new start because...’		Christian Bible Cross Church Easter	BBC links Powerpoint RE books



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I can recall and talk about some of the key parts of the Easter story. I understand that the Easter story is important to Christians.	<u>Lesson 2 (60 mins):</u> Flashback – Share an image from the story of Zacchaeus and some images of signs of Spring, what is the link between them – children should recall back to how both are seen as symbols of a fresh start or new life. Explain to the children that Easter is a Christian celebration and is important to many Christians because it reminds them of the sacrifice of Jesus dying on the cross and his resurrection a few days later when most Christians believe he rose from the dead. Share the Easter story The Christian Story of Easter - BBC Teach Ensure you allow for discussion after this to address questions or thoughts the children may have – for example some children who have lost people may wonder why they cannot just come back to life as Jesus did. This will need to be handled carefully – discuss how most Christians believe Jesus rose from the dead and appeared to his friends (disciples) to prove to them he had risen so they would go and spread the good news and renew faith before he finally rose to join his Father God in heaven. Ask children to choose their favourite moment, the saddest moment, the scariest moment, the most dangerous moment and the moment that is most about new life. Recording – Children complete one of the Easter story craft activities. Sequencing cards are available in the resources to support this.	Christian Bible Cross Church Easter Angel Savior Tomb Disciple	BBC teach video Worksheet RE book
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I can recall and talk about some of the key parts of the Easter story. I can explore the feelings and emotion of the characters in the story.	<u>Lesson 3 (60 mins):</u> Flashback – Ask the children to think back to last week and discuss the Easter story. The Easter story in 5 scenes – Set up stations either outside or in a hall or classroom if other options not possible, include artefacts/objects to prompt discussion. As a class move around the stations or work though each step recapping each part of the story. 1. (Palm leaf) Listen to the Palm Sunday story: Jesus is welcomed by excited crowds, riding a young donkey. Talk about how people felt, why people loved Jesus, what the occasion was like. Luke 19:28-40 2. (Coins) Read / tell the story of Jesus and the money changers in the Temple. Talk about what makes us angry, and why this made Jesus angry. Did it help Jesus to make friends, or make enemies? Luke 19: 45-48. Is it sometimes OK to be angry? 3. (Cup and plate, bread, drink, cloth and water) Next, take the story of Jesus' last supper with his disciples. Children might look at bread and wine (blackcurrant). Water and cloth used to wash his friends feet. Luke 22: 1-23. 4. (Crown of thorn/cross) The fourth part of the story is the crucifixion of Jesus. Talk about the people who cried, and times when we cry. How might Jesus have felt? 5. (Tomb, a cloth like Jesus was wrapped in) The story of the Empty Tomb brings a happy ending to the story. Talk about why Christians believe in heaven and the idea of life after death. Connecting 6 pictures to the story Then in mixed ability team the children should move around the stations trying to identify the symbol they feel matches that part of the story – each group will have egg cut outs with the following symbols on - a palm leaf, silver coins, cup and plate, crown of thorns, tomb. As they move around the stations there will also be treasure hunt clues. Children should work in their groups to solve the word answers to add to their answer sheet. Conclude lesson by looking at the symbols and how children have placed them - what does each one remind Christian people about? Press for deeper answers to this question by giving children time to think. Photos, pupil voice and floor book recording for this lesson.	Christian Bible Cross Church Easter Angel Savior Tomb Disciple Symbol Crucify Resurrection	Class recording sheets Treasure hunt clues Egg cut outs Props
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I can talk about some of the ways Christians celebrate Easter. I can name and explain some of the symbols of Easter..	<u>Lesson 4 (60 mins):</u> Flashback – Talk about how we celebrate a special occasion. Discuss children's experiences of celebration. Ask questions such as, 'What do you like about birthdays?' 'Are there any other special days in your family?' 'How do celebrations make us feel?' Pupils could collect emotional words for the 'best day of the year' and contrast them with some for an ordinary day or a sad day. Recap how Easter is a special celebration for Christians. Talk about how they personally celebrate Easter – eggs, egg hunts, chocolate, Easter bunny etc. Share the Cbeebies/newsround videos – CBeebies Celebrating Easter Let's Celebrate (youtube.com) join Toby as he goes to church for Easter How do Christians celebrate Easter? Newsround (youtube.com) children share their experiences of Easter The symbols of Easter can be shared if children require further support understanding the importance of objects to Christians at Easter. For Christians, the meaning of the stories of Easter includes the hope for life after death in which Christians believe and the idea that love can conquer death. These hard concepts are the background to this final lesson. Share 6 to 10 artefacts, including Easter ones such as hot crossed buns, chocolate eggs and rabbits, crosses, painted eggs, bible, an image of an Easter garden, fresh flowers, an Easter card and others similar. Invite children to choose 3 artefacts (or pictures) that matter most to Christians, including at least one that they think is a sign of new life, from the table and say why I chose them. You might also include some others that are nothing to do with Easter. Allow a few children to take turns doing this stating their reasons. Then children should select three to draw in their RE book and write a sentence as to why they feel each is important to Christians at Easter, what do the objects remind Christians of.	Christian Bible Cross Church Easter Tomb Symbol Palm Celebrate Forgiveness Kindness New life	Links RE books Objects PowerPoint
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I understand that Easter is about new life, hope, saying sorry and forgiveness. I understand that sometimes we all need a fresh start and it is OK to start again.	<u>Lesson 5 (60 mins):</u> Flashback – share an image of a mosque, the Qur'an and a prayer mat – who are these objects/places important to and why. Give the children three paper shapes – leaf, teardrop, bird. 1 – Sorry/forgiveness – Several people in the Easter story are sorry for things that they do. Can you remember why Peter felt sorry? What about Pilate? Children write on leaf shapes something we may say sorry for or give forgiveness for – they may draw on their own experiences. These can be hole punched and hung on a class tree or used for a class display and stuck to the tree. 2 – Suffering - Remember the part of the story where Jesus suffers when he is hit, teased and put to death. He also suffers when he knows that one of his special friends betrays him and another denies him. Everyone's life has some sad times too. Children write on a teardrop shape a reason someone may feel sad. On the other side they will add things that would help someone to feel better. These will be added to a large cross shape. 3 – Hope - Remember the part of the story where Jesus' friends find the empty tomb and see that Jesus is alive again? For Christians the Easter story gives them hope that when they die they will go to live with God. On a bird shape children should add a hope for the future – this could be linked to family, friends, ambitions, overcoming challenges, health, happiness etc. These can be hole punched and hung on a class tree or used for a class display and stuck to the tree. Finally provide each child with a finger labyrinth, as they trace the labyrinth, play quiet music and ask children to think about the three things they have done on their journey today; saying sorry/forgiving, thinking of others and sharing hope.	Easter Christians Hope Sorry Forgiveness Suffering Sadness	Activity outlines Finger labyrinths Flashback images/objects
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I can show my understanding of the Easter story in creative ways.	<u>Lesson 6 (60 mins):</u> Flashback – Recap the Easter story with the children asking them to explain key parts. Share with the children some different interpretations of the Easter story. In groups allow the children to discuss the images, sort them by type (wooden, Lego and Minecraft/computer generated), then ask the children to sequence them by the events in the Easter story – what part does each picture represent? Explain that they will have an opportunity to represent part of the story themselves, they may want to choose the part they think is most important, sad, happy, interesting, puzzling – children should have time to discuss this. Palm Sunday – Hand palm leaves – rolled brown paper to make a stem and handprint leaves cut and attached to make the leaves. Holy Thursday – Last supper craft – children could work in groups to create this upside down egg box last supper. Characters are stuck around the outside while the table cloth attaches over the front part Easter Saturday/Sunday – The tomb – Use templates in lesson 6 file, bed place on black card, use a paper place for the front of the stone and split pin to make rock moveable. Add characters around scene. Provide resources for children to complete their Easter art – this may happen over two sessions with children rotating to complete more than one activity.	Easter Palm Sunday Last supper Crucifixion Jesus Tomb Disciples Resurrection	Images on planning Additional resources in folder. Relevant art resources
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I can talk about the Christian festival of Lent. I can talk about why Lent is important to Christians.	<u>Lesson 7 (60 mins):</u> Flashback – Ask the children to recall some festivals they can think of, these may be from the Christian faith or may be from other faiths also. Explain that over the next few lessons we will be looking more closely at the Easter period and the important days that are included. We will begin with the period that happens before Easter. A festival known as Lent. Share the Lent video - Lent School Assemblies Religious Studies BBC Teach - YouTube a powerpoint is also available to support discussion. Pause the video and discuss the video and the important elements of Lent and children to complete the Lent activity where they think about what they would give up, why this would be difficult and why Christians take part in this. Children complete the Lent activity.	Christians Lent Sacrifice Jesus God	Video link Lent activity.
I can talk about what Christians believe happened on Palm Sunday. I can talk about why Palm Sunday is important to Christians.	<u>Lesson 8 (60 mins):</u> Flashback – Share an image of or a physical example of a cross – What do they know about the cross a symbol – in learning about Easter has this helped their understanding or why it is a symbol of Christianity. Remind the children that we are looking at Easter more closely. Can the children recall the period/festival that takes place in the 6 weeks before Easter? Briefly recap Lent which was explored in the previous lesson. Today we will focus in on Palm Sunday the day Jesus arrived in Jerusalem riding on a donkey. Share the Palm Sunday powerpoint and/or video What is Palm Sunday? † All About Palm Sunday for Kids! - YouTube Pause the video and discuss the video and the events of Palm Sunday and children to complete the Palm Sunday Quiz activity.	Palm Sunday Easter Jesus Christians Prophecy Cross Church	Video link Powerpoint Quiz activity



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I can talk about what Christians believe happened on Maundy Thursday. I can talk about why Maundy Thursday is important to Christians.	<u>Lesson 9 (60 mins)</u> Flashback – Ask the children to think about special meals they may share. Explain that today we will be thinking about the last supper. Show the children the Leonardo Di Vinci painting of the Last supper. Discuss what they can see, why do they think this was an important day? Share the Maundy Thursday video What is Maundy Thursday? Holy Thursday Explained for Kids! - YouTube Pause the video and discuss the information and the events of Maundy Thursday – what does the term Maundy mean, why did this day get its name, what happened, why it is important, how did the disciples feel. Children to then complete the cloze activity and put in RE books.	Maundy Thursday Easter Jesus Christians Disciples Command Last supper	Video link Powerpoint Cloze activity
I can talk about what Christians believe happened on Good Friday. I can talk about why Good Friday is important to Christians.	<u>Lesson 10 (60 mins):</u> Flashback – Recap some key points of the Easter period. Name some of the days and ask children to talk about what happened on these days. Today we will be focusing upon Good Friday when Jesus was crucified on the cross. Why do we think it is called Good Friday when something so terrible had happened? Pose this question for the children to think about, they may suggest reasons. Share the Good Friday video What Is Good Friday? Good Friday Explained for Kids - YouTube Children to complete the Good Friday cross sheet, choose which is appropriate for your children. Adapt as needed. Children could have an enlarged version and complete in groups with more focus on the discussion and reasons for their word choices. If individual add to RE books or groups ones to go in floor book.	Good Friday Easter Jesus Christians Cross Crucifixion	Video link Cross activity.



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I can talk about what Christians believe happened on Easter Sunday. I can talk about why Easter Sunday is important to Christians. I can consider how the disciples may have felt during this time.	<u>Lesson 11 (60 mins):</u> Flashback – Share the last supper image and ask the children to talk about what was happening here. Today we will conclude our Easter work by focusing on the final two days of the Easter period. Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday when Jesus's body was placed in the tomb and then he rose from the dead before ascending to heaven. Share with the children the PowerPoint about Easter Sunday and discuss. Then children will complete the page 2 of the Easter Sunday sheets – three pictures from Good Friday to Easter Sunday where children will put themselves in the position of the disciples and consider how they would have felt.	Good Friday Easter Jesus Christians Cross Crucifixion	PowerPoint Easter Sunday feelings activity.
OUTCOMES - At the end of this unit: Nearly all pupils will be able to: ☐ Name and say what happens at the festival of Easter ☐ Name three things that a Christian family might do at Easter ☐ Talk about their own experiences of birthdays, Easter & other festivals and the things they do with their own families ☐ Tell someone about my own celebrations and someone else's celebrations ☐ Talk about the Easter story and how some of the characters may have felt ☐ Talk about some of the signs of new life.	Most pupils will be able to: ☐ Retell some stories of Easter (e.g. in drama or art) using a rich vocabulary ☐ Suggest meanings to the stories of Holy Week and Easter ☐ Ask some questions of my own about Holy Week and Easter ☐ Use a rich knowledge to recount the outlines of stories of Palm Sunday, the Last Supper, Jesus' death and the empty tomb; ☐ Suggest meanings in symbols of the idea of new life and the ways the story of Jesus' death matters to Christians ☐ Respond sensitively to the story for themselves with reasonable ideas and views.	Some children will have progressed further and will be able to: ☐ Describe the Christian belief that Jesus was raised from death using accurate vocabulary ☐ Make connections between the story of the death of Jesus and Christian ideas and celebrations at Easter. ☐ Make links between the celebration of Easter and their own ideas about new life.	



ATTITUDES FOCUS:

- Self-awareness; Pupils have the opportunity to feel confident about their own beliefs and identity, sharing them with others
- Open-mindedness: Pupils will have opportunities to learn and gain new understanding about Christian celebrations and the idea of new life.

Significant background ideas:

- ☐ Building rich knowledge: RE often studies festivals. Aim to enable children to see the links between ancient stories, modern customs and big ideas. Festivals often include special symbols, foods, community gatherings, stories, music and giving. Can the children spot all these elements in Easter?
- ☐ In Christian traditions, belief in Jesus as God come down to earth, or as the Son of God, is expressed through the Holy Week and Easter stories and celebrations. Holy Week is the time from 'Palm Sunday' to 'Good Friday' – Easter itself remembers the resurrection day in the story. Jesus was crucified because of the jealousy, hatred or indifference of many people, but for Christians his death was also a part of the mystery of God's plan, so the day is remembered as 'Good Friday' a day when love triumphed over death. Christian belief asserts that three days later, God raised Jesus from death. The event symbolizes the power of love over even death. Many different understandings of the symbolism can be found in the Christian community. Children in this age group will be interested in the symbols and their meanings at a suitable and simple level.
- ☐ Holy Week and Easter are widely celebrated beyond the normal church-attending Christian population with families, chocolate, holidays and thankfulness for the new life of the season in Spring. In some ways it is a national festival in the UK (with public holidays attached) not just a religious one. Perhaps it is best seen as both. In RE, the religious and spiritual aspects of the festival are to the forefront of learning.