

St. John's CE (Aided) Primary School
Whole School Overview / Essential Opportunities



Aims / Essential Characteristics

To ensure all pupils:

Key Stage 1 and 2

- To enable pupils to encounter Christianity as the religion that shape British culture and heritage and influences the lives of millions of people today
- To enable pupils to learn about the other major religions, their impact on culture and politics, art and history, and on the lives of their adherents.
- To develop understanding of a religious faith as the search for and expression of truth
- To contribute to the development of pupil's own spiritual/philosophical convictions, exploring and enriching their own faith and beliefs.

	Key Stage 1		Lower Key Stage 2		Upper Key Stage 2	
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Autumn	<p>God</p> <p>1.1 Harvest around the world</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to raise awareness that we harvest food all around the world and that we usually have plenty but others do not. <p>1.2 God & Creation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give children the opportunity to develop their perceptions and understanding of God, providing opportunity for reflection on feelings of awe, wonder, delight and mystery in relation to the natural world. <p>Non-Christian faith Unit: Islam Pillar 1: God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the children to clearly understand that Muslims believe in one God, Allah the God of Abraham. <p>1.3 Christmas Gifts & Gift Bringers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to deepen children's understanding of the true meaning of Christmas by exploring the concept of Jesus as a gift. To discuss the feelings and idea of giving and receiving 	<p>Worship</p> <p>2.3 Jesus was special</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to enjoy the stories of Jesus' Miracles and increase the children's awareness that Jesus was an extraordinary person. <p>2.2 Christmas – Good news and Newsbringers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to look at the story of Christmas from the perspective that it was good news then and now. 	<p>Founders and Leaders</p> <p>3.1 The Old Testament – Called by God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give children an opportunity to consider what it means to be called by God and the responses people have made to that call. <p>3.2 Christmas – God with us</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give children the opportunity to reflect upon Christmas as a celebration of God's presence with us 2000 years ago and now. 	<p>Living the Faith</p> <p>4.1 God, David and The Psalms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to explore the Story of David and his strengths and qualities. To read the Psalms and use them to discover more about the nature of God <p>4.2 Christmas – Light</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to explore the Christian concept of Jesus the 'Light of the World' and the multi-faceted metaphor of bringing light into people's lives. <p>Non-Christian faith Unit: Light</p> <p>Judaism: Hanukkah</p> <p>To understand what makes a place special/Holy.</p> <p>To understand what Hannukah symbolise.</p>	<p>Sacred Books</p> <p>5.1 The Bible</p> <p>Durham Cathedral Visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to deepen children's understanding of the importance and impact of the contents of the Bible. <p>Non-Christian Faith Unit: Sacred Books/ Texts Islam: The Qur'an</p> <p>To know that the Qur'an is the sacred scripture of Islam and that Muslims believe it is the final word of God</p> <p>Non-Christian Faith Unit: Sacred Books/ Texts Judaism: The Torah</p> <p>To understand how a holy book can affect the life of a person. To consider why rules are important.</p> <p>5.2 Christmas – Gospels of Matthew & Luke</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give children a Biblical perspective on the Nativity Story. 	<p>Life as a Journey</p> <p>6.3 Eucharist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enable pupils to develop a greater understanding of the Eucharist and the deeper meaning of the symbolism and reasons for the celebration. <p>Non-Christian Faith Unit: Judaism: Passover</p> <p>To understand Passover commemorates the escape from Egypt into freedom.</p> <p>6.2 Christmas – Advent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to delve deeper into the themes of the season of Advent.

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	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Spring	<p>1.4 Jesus the Son of God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to explore the stories of Jesus meeting and healing people and use these stories to emphasise that we believe Jesus was a man but he was also God. <p>1.5 Easter – New life and changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give children an opportunity to reflect upon the miracles of nature and new life during springtime. To make links between the transformation of plants and animals and the Easter Story in order to develop an understanding of the resurrection. 	<p>Non-Christian faith Unit: Special Books</p> <p>Judaism: Torah</p> <p>To understand how a holy book can affect the life of a person. To consider why rules are important.</p> <p>Non-Christian faith Unit: Places of Worship</p> <p>Judaism: Special Places Synagogue</p> <p>To know when and why Jews go to the Synagogue. To understand why the Synagogue a special/sacred place.</p> <p>2.4 Easter – Celebration and symbols</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give children an understanding that symbols are pictures or objects with a deeper meaning and a story to tell. 	<p>3.3 Jesus – The Man who changed lives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to enable children to gain insight into the impact Jesus had/has on people’s lives. <p>3.4 Easter – Joy, Sadness, Joy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to explore the Easter Story by focusing upon the feelings evoked by the different events throughout Holy Week. 	<p>4.3 Jesus – Authority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to deepen the children’s understanding of Jesus, who he was, his teaching and behaviour. <p>Non-Christian faith Unit: Jesus - Authority</p> <p>Judaism: Shabbat</p> <p>To understand what makes a day special? To understand people celebrate special days.</p> <p>4.4 Easter – Betrayal and Trust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give children the opportunity to reflect upon the importance of power and effect of betrayal, trust and forgiveness. 	<p>5.3 Jesus – Teacher</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to emphasize Jesus’ skills as a great teacher, to consider carefully the messages of the parables and how they impact on the lives of practising Christians. <p>5.4 Easter – Victory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to explore the Easter Story as the story of Christ’s triumph and victory over death. 	<p>6.4 Easter – Who was Jesus?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to allow children the opportunity to stand back and consider ‘Who was Jesus?’ ‘Who is Jesus?’

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Summer	<p>1.6 Saints and Followers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to enable children to begin to understand the concept of being a follower of Jesus. <p>1.7 The Life of St Paul</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to introduce pupils to the life, work and teachings of Saint Paul. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Non-Christian Faith Unit: Special People</p> <p>Judaism: The Exodus</p> <p>To understand what makes someone a great leader, what does it mean to be free and why is the Exodus such a significant event in Jewish history.</p> </div>	<p>2.6 Ascension and Pentecost</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to begin to develop the children's knowledge and understanding of Ascension and Pentecost. Give children an opportunity to explore the concept of God as three in one. Emphasize the importance of these events in the life of Jesus and the Church, then and now. <p>2.1 The Bible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to widen the children's understanding of the Bible, its contents, presentation and importance to Christians. <p>2.5 The Church</p> <p>St. John's Church Visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give the children an understanding of 'Church' as a place and as a body of people. 	<p>3.5 Rules for living</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give pupils an opportunity to consider the concept of rules, to examine Christian rules for living and reflect upon their own lifestyle and the influences upon it. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Non-Christian faith Unit: Islam</p> <p>Pillar 3: Zakah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to know that it is an essential part of being a Muslim to pay Zakah. <p>Pillar 4: Fasting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils should know why Muslims fast. </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Non-Christian Faith Unit: Founders & leaders</p> <p>Islam: Muhammad</p> <p>Joint Mosque visit with Year 4</p> </div>	<p>4.5 The Church inc. the Church Year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give the children an understanding of the Church in its widest sense. To see the similarities and differences between denominations and to develop further their concept of symbolism. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Non-Christian faith Unit: Living the Faith Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pillar 1: God For the children to clearly understand that Muslims believe in one God, Allah the God of Abraham. <p>Pillar 2: Prayer and The Mosque</p> <p>To know why and how Muslims pray</p> <p>Joint Mosque visit</p> </div>	<p>5.5 Women in the Bible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to widen the children's understanding of the role and significance of women in the Bible. To reflect upon and learn from the actions of these women <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Non-Christian Faith Unit: Jewish Festivals</p> <p>Judaism: Purim</p> <p>To understand why the Festival of Purim is remembered and celebrated.</p> </div> <p>5.6 Exploring through story Loss, Death and Christian Hope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give children in a safe loving environment opportunity to ask questions, discuss feelings, widen and deepen their ideas and give them time to think about and respond to the key questions. 	<p>6.1 Life as a journey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to give children an opportunity to consider life as a journey and what it means to make that journey as a Christian. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Non-Christian Faith Unit: Jewish Way of Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bar and Bat Mitzvah Israel <p>To know why Israel is a place of Pilgrimage for Jews.</p> </div> <p>6.5 Ascension and Pentecost</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to delve deeper into the meaning and impact of festivals. <p>6.6 Ideas about God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to further the children's understanding of the nature of God and his relationship with people. <p>6.7 Prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to ensure that the children know that prayer is a way of communicating with God and that we/Christians believe that God listens and responds.

Objectives written in italics represent repeated knowledge, skills and understanding.