

Assembly Plan: Lent & Easter

SUBJECT

Lent

GRADE

Nursery-KS3

TERM

2C

OVERVIEW

Diocesan Vision: Growing more like Jesus; Serving together to make a difference in our communities

SRE Curriculum: How to be a good friend and advocate others.

Summary: Explores Lent and how we can reflect on our behaviours and attitudes and make a conscious effort to make our homes, school and communities a nurturing and kind place.

PHASES

NOTES

DIRECTIONS

PHASES	NOTES	DIRECTIONS
PREPARATION AND MATERIALS		Schools are multi faith/belief communities. Please remember to use inclusive, non-gendered language for God (e.g. using God not he or she), give reflective option to children who do not want to pray and start prayers with Our God to enable those of other faiths to feel free to pray.
WELCOME	Hello. How are you today? Sit for a moment and close your eyes and have a think about your day so far. Are you feeling cheerful, tired, maybe it's close to lunch and you're feeling hungry? Is there anything about your day so far that you might want to change? For example, maybe you didn't brush your teeth quite as thoroughly as you should have? Is there anything that you can do to put that right? Maybe have an extra special brush before you go to bed? Is there anything in your day that is really good?	Have peaceful music playing as children walk in to set peaceful calm tone to the worship.

PHASES

NOTES

DIRECTIONS

	<p>What you just did was something called reflection or contemplation.</p> <p>It's a really big word but it just means to think about something carefully. Christians are currently in a season of contemplation (it can also be called a season of penitence because we think about anything that might be stopping us from being good Christians).</p> <p>This Season is called Lent.</p>	
<p>TELL</p>	<p>Lent starts on Ash Wednesday. The day before is called Shrove Tuesday. It is also called pancake day.</p> <p>Traditionally because Lent is a time of fasting or giving things up, people would use up all the yummy things so that they wouldn't go off or stale and also so that they wouldn't be tempted to break their fast too soon by yummy things in their cupboards!</p> <p>My favourite pancake topping is maple syrup and ice cream.</p> <p>What's your favourite pancake topping?</p> <p>The day after Shrove Tuesday is Ash Wednesday.</p> <p>Many Christians will go to a special church service where we contemplate in prayer all that is not quite right in the world and the times when we haven't got things quite right. We make a sign of the cross in ash on our forehead to remind us that it is now lent, and we must think about how to make those things we did wrong better. By thinking about these things, we can prepare for Good Friday when Jesus died but also be ready for Easter when Jesus rose from the dead</p>	<p>Clergy/ECMA leaders: In the worship pack there some small bags of non-blessed ash that the children might like to pass around to see what it looks like.</p>

PHASES

NOTES

DIRECTIONS

	<p>and that's when we can break our fast and have Easter eggs!</p> <p>One way that we might think about the things we want to change is to give something up. This is called fasting and it helps us to think about what we have to be thankful for and also in missing those things, it helps us to think about how we made other people feel when we haven't quite got our actions right. My family and I usually go vegetarian and then the money we save from not eating meat we donate to the foodbank to help us to help people in our community who might need a little bit of help right now.</p> <p>You can also take things up in lent. Sometimes people like to start exercising more or eat healthier, sometimes people might volunteer for charities.</p> <p>Sometimes people will read a book that will help them to think about how they can make the world a better place or help them to pray and to talk to God. They might read a book because sometimes we forget that God is closer to us than the air we breathe and books about holy people or what we think about God (that's called Theology) can help us to remember that.</p>	
<p>ASK/EXPLORE</p>	<p>What type of things could you give up or take up in Lent?</p>	<p>You could do a think, pair, share here.</p> <p>Emphasise that it needs to be small, free or cheap and safe.</p>

PHASES

NOTES

DIRECTIONS

<p>PRAY/REFLECT</p>	<p>In a moment we are going to pray. God takes many different shapes for many different people so if you don't want to pray, that is absolutely fine.</p> <p>If you don't want to pray the prayer that I'm about to say, why don't you close your eyes and think of somebody who has been really kind to you today, then imagine thanking them and, if you see them later, why not thank them in person.</p> <p>So, let's close our eyes and take a slow, deep breath in and then breathe out slowly.</p> <p>Our God, You have made for us a beautiful world, In our world we have wonderful plants and animals, The seas and forests to play in. You have also given us people in our lives who love us and help us. Sometimes we don't get things right and we might say or do things that can hurt people or damage the world around us. As we start Lent help us to be thankful for all the wonderful things in our lives and to think about our own acts to make our little bits of the world a better place.</p> <p>Amen</p>	
---------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

SUBJECT

Easter

GRADE

Nursery-KS3

TERM

2C

OVERVIEW

Diocesan Vision: Growing more like Jesus; Serving together to make a difference in our communities

SRE Curriculum: How to be a good friend and advocate others.

Summary: Explores Lent and how we can reflect on our behaviours and attitudes and make a conscious effort to make our homes, school and communities a nurturing and kind place.

PHASES**NOTES****DIRECTIONS**

PHASES	NOTES	DIRECTIONS
PREPARATION AND MATERIALS		Schools are multi faith/belief communities. Please remember to use inclusive, non-gendered language for God (e.g. using God not he or she), give reflective option to children who do not want to pray and start prayers with Our God to enable those of other faiths to feel free to pray.
WELCOME	<p>Welcome Children. Ask children to show you their thumbs. Explain that thumbs up means theyre feeling great. Middling thumb means ok and thumb down means tired, grumpy etc.</p> <p>Count to 3 and ask them to show thumbs.</p> <p>This is a quick way to see and adapt questioning. If you see lots of middling and/or thumbs down then you may need to give more prompting etc with your questioning etc.</p>	Have peaceful music playing as children walk in to set peaceful calm tone to the worship.
TELL	Tell children that today we are going to talk about Easter.	Clergy/ECMA leaders: In the worship pack there some small bags of non-blessed ash that the children might like to pass around to see what it looks like.

PHASES**NOTES****DIRECTIONS**

<p>ASK</p>	<p>Ask children to think pair share what comes to mind when they think about Easter.</p> <p>Do they know what resurrection means?</p>	<p>You could do a think, pair, share here.</p> <p>You need to be conscious here about grief - There maybe children who have recently lost a relative, pet etc.</p>
<p>EXPLORE</p>	<p>Watch the Dai Woolridge account of the Road to Emmaus</p> <p>Talk about how we celebrate Easter in church and ask questions about how the children celebrate Easter at home and in their churches and school etc.</p> <p>Look at origin of Easter Eggs and tell the apocryhal story of Mary Magdalegne and the 1st Easter Egg</p>	<p>https://youtu.be/ndtnZV-5QTo</p> <p>If you want an example of music sung in church at Easter, here is an example of the Exultet sung at the start of the Easter Vigil to signify that the light of Christ has reentered the world.</p> <p>https://youtu.be/dtuW-zzJRp4</p>
<p>PRAY/REFLECT</p>	<p>Talk about Easter Eggs as a symbol of new life. Ask children for examples of new life that they see around them.</p> <p>Invite children to pray. Give an alternative to reflect upon for those who do not wish to pray.</p> <p>Dear God, We thank you for giving us Jesus who shows us that light always wins over the darkness. We thank you for our families and for all those people that love us and support us. We thank you for our Easter treats and the things that we will enjoy in the Easter holidays. Amen</p>	

PHASES

NOTES

DIRECTIONS

--	--	--

Example of Assembly Script

Hello!

Today we're going to talk about Easter and Resurrection.

What do you think the word resurrection means?

When something resurrects, it comes back to life.

For those of us who are Christian, when we celebrate Easter, we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection. The moment that he came back to life.

Now when people we love die, they die and unfortunately, they don't come back and it is really sad and can make us very, very upset and tearful for a long time because we miss them, and they loved us, and we loved them, and we call this grief.

But Jesus isn't any person, Christians believe Jesus is God too. Now I can't really tell you how that works, it's a mystery but I have faith that it is true because it says things about that being true in the bible and I feel it in my heart every time I think about Jesus and pray.

But because Jesus is both human and God when he died something really important happened and three days later when his friends went to visit the grave, they found that Jesus was alive! We're going to learn a bit more about Jesus from this story which is told from the perspective of two people who met him a little bit after his friends had gone to his tomb.

.

So, as you can see the story of Jesus rising from the dead is a pretty big deal for Christians. At Easter time we break our fast from Lent which means we can have chocolate, sweets and meat again. Some Christians sing a special song called the exultet which is a special song that is sung after sundown on the night before Easter, to signify that Jesus is risen and we light a special candle called a paschal candle (Paschal is another word for Easter) to show that the light of Jesus has re-entered the world.

.

We also have easter eggs!

Easter eggs are yummy and are usually made of chocolate, although, I saw one made of cheese the other day!!! There are many stories about why celebrate Easter with Easter eggs , but my favourite is this one.

Mary Magdalene, Jesus' best friend was really upset that the Romans had mistreated Jesus and killed him. So, she went marching up to the Roman emperor and said,

'Oi what do you think you're doing letting your soldiers treat my friend like this? I tell you what though, he's had the last laugh because he's risen from the dead'.

The Roman emperor, who was eating at the time (because the Romans ate a huge amount of food, all the time not just breakfast, lunch and tea,) said 'No more can a person rise from the dead than this egg I'm holding change colour!'

And that moment., the egg turned red. And that is also why when we see old pictures of Mary Magdalene, she is holding an Egg!

Now an Easter Egg, is also a symbol of new life.

I would like you to have a think about what signs of new life you can see... Maybe baby lambs, flowers growing, more sunny days, maybe you have been able to visit someone you haven't been able to visit for a long time, maybe you have been able to go somewhere you haven't been able to go to for a long time. Anything that brings you joy right now is a sign of new life.

Let us pray

As always if you don't want to pray that's absolutely fine. When we close our eyes why don't you imagine all the signs of new life around us and think about the things that bring you joy right now.

Dear God,

We thank you for giving us Jesus who shows us that light always wins over the darkness.

We thank you for our families and for all those people that love us and support us.

We thank you for our Easter treats and the things that we will enjoy in the Easter holidays.

Amen