

Parkside Primary Religious Education Newsletter



14th February 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to share with you what your child has and will be learning in Religious Education (RE) this year. Below you'll find information on the topics covered this half term, along with suggestions how you could support and enhance this learning at home. By working together, we can help your child deepen their understanding of faith both in school and home.

Each topic celebrates the diversity of religious and human experiences, encouraging children to develop knowledge, skills, sensitivity and understanding needed to feel confident as part of our local multi-faith community and wider world, through spiritual, moral, social and cultural experiences.

Many thanks,

Mr Derrington

Religious Education Coordinator

Early Years and Foundation Stage

EYFS celebrated and learned about Chinese New Year this half term. They made large blossom paintings and cooked a vegetable stir fry. Children learned the names of animals in the Chinese Zodiac and how the Jade Emperor decided what year would be named after which animal.



Year 1

How and why do we celebrate special and sacred times, has been this half term's focus in Year 1. They have been learning about the Jewish festival of Pesach (Passover) and how families prepare and celebrate it.



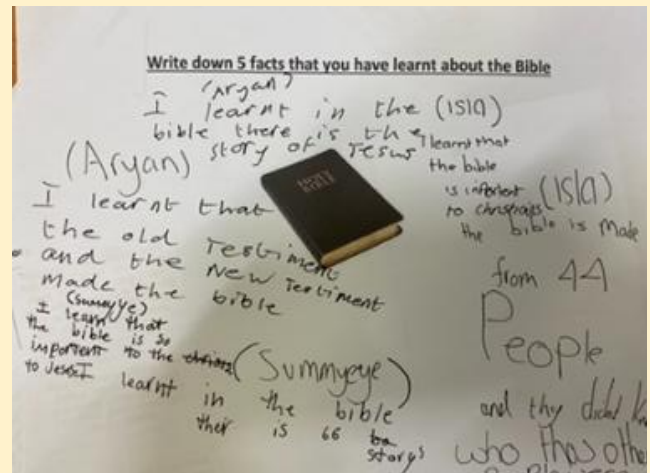
Year 2

Children have explored who was Buddha and his importance to Buddhists today, Buddhist signs and symbols, principles of Buddhist life and the path to enlightenment. They examined ways Buddha is represented and the significance of this to his life and messages.



Year 3

The importance of The Bible to Christians in daily life, worship and how it can support and guide individuals has been the focus of work covered this half term by Year 3 pupils.



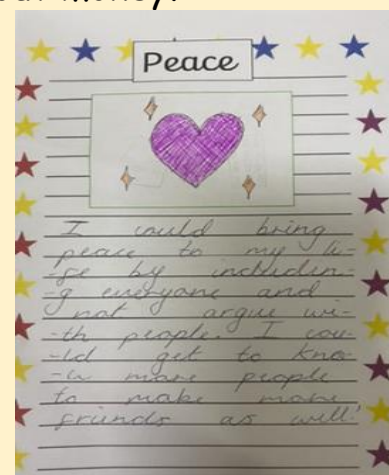
Year 4

This half term Year 4 have examined the importance of prayer and meditation and why people pray and is helpful and supportive to individuals and different faiths including Islam, and Christianity examining prayer, their messages and common themes including in prayers with different



Year 5

Year 5 investigated the principles of Humanism including, ethics, democracy, compassion, free enquiry, educational rights and peace, delving into philosophical questions such as, 'is life better without money?'



Year 6

Year 6 have studied the philosophical question of why Hindu's want to be good and how Brahman forms part of each individual's soul, how God may appear on earth in 3 different forms and what Karma means to Hindus and how this influences the way they live their daily lives.



Ways you can support your children's understanding of Religious Education at Home

- Ask your child to record words, facts, pictures or sentences about everything they can recall from RE lessons and topics covered. This way you are showing your interest and it will spark great conversation between you!
- Let your child explore reflecting, praying and contemplating in different ways - could they write their own hopes, morals, prayer of thanks, to say sorry etc...? Could they reflect or have some quiet time with God or contemplating life?
- Use bedtime story opportunities to read a short extract from religious stories, values, morals and ethics.
- Ask your child to create a picture or poster to explore their thoughts and feelings and thoughts about religious education studied in school and home. This is a great opportunity to help them develop their language skills!
- Create your own RE cross word using words from their recent lessons.
- Create a fact file about a well-known person who you think has lived a life with a strong moral purpose, or religious leader who has/had a message about how individuals can live better lives.