

Religious Education and Collective Worship Newsletter.

Spring Term.

Please see below the topics that have been covered in the different classes during this term.

Little Owls

Last half term, we gained knowledge and understanding of special places and why they matter. We identified places that are special to us and reflected on what makes them meaningful. We also learned that a church is a special place for Christians and a mosque is special to Muslims. As part of this, we explored the meaning of the word *holy* and how it describes something very precious to religious people. The children expressed their learning creatively through a range of activities.



Elf Owls – Elf Owls have been exploring **special religious buildings**, focusing on **churches and synagogues**, comparing their features and learning how different religions worship. We have also listened to **Old Testament stories** and talked about how their messages relate to our own lives.

Next, we will learn about **Salvation** by exploring **why Easter is important to Christians**, looking at the Easter story and the themes of new life we see in **spring**.



Tawny Owls – An incredible term of learning. It began with our multi-faith day, we found out so much about the Hindu faith and the story of Diwali. We tried different types of food, danced to music and wore outfits that may be worn during the celebration.

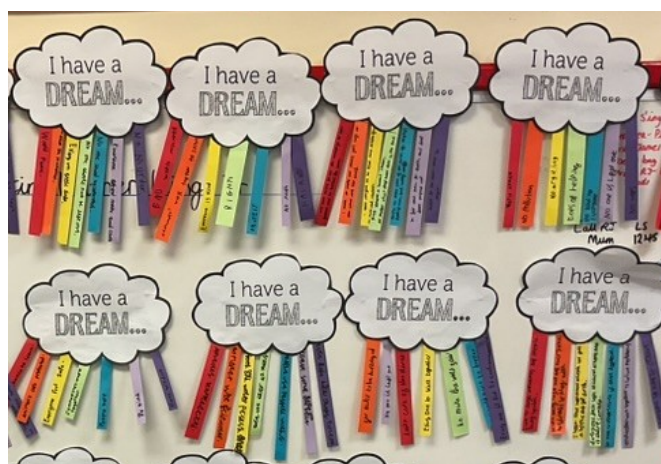
We are now learning about Pilgrimages, this has begun with an Easter Pilgrimage, exploring the Easter story through a spiritual journey around the school.



Snowy Owls - This term we have been exploring the Jewish religion and comparing their beliefs with those of Christians. We explored why the Torah is special for Jews and reflected on the importance of Shabbat sharing a wonderful afternoon exploring more about Judaism. Then we started to explore the Easter Story and look at why Jesus gave up his life for others and why the Easter Story shows how salvation for all.



Eagle Owls - This term we have been exploring the theme "Inspirational People." We have been thinking about what makes someone a leader, why certain people are considered inspirational, and how the teachings of religious leaders continue to guide their followers today. The children have discussed well-known religious figures such as Dr Martin Luther King Jr and Mahatma Ghandi amongst others. We have considered the challenges these individuals faced and how they overcame them.



Barn Owls - Last half term we gained knowledge and understanding of how a Muslim prays and linking the similarities to how a Christian prays. We connected ideas and beliefs to what people in these two religions do. We responded thoughtfully to beliefs and ideas about prayer



that came up in the study.

Wise Owls - Wise Owls have been learning about Judaism, beginning with an introduction to key beliefs, festivals, and traditions to help children understand the foundations of the Jewish faith. We spent time exploring what community and family life look like within Judaism and the importance of practices such as Shabbat and the Torah.

We then moved on to learning about Jewish life in Europe in the early 20th century, helping children recognise the rich culture and history of Jewish communities before the upheavals that followed. Building on this understanding, pupils learned—in a sensitive and age-appropriate way—how Jewish people were affected during the Second World War, including the

discrimination they faced under Nazi rule.

Finally, we looked at how Jewish communities rebuilt their lives after the Holocaust, focusing on themes of resilience, remembrance, and the continuation of Jewish identity and traditions today.

Our Easter Pilgrimage – This was a very interactive day where we explored the Easter story. We made a Easter Garden where there was a model of the tomb that Jesus was placed into with a boulder rolled away. We created a picture that showed colours coming out of the tomb to show that this was a happy time of celebration – Libby, Hadassah and Hollie – Year 6

It was thoughtful, magical and cared for. I was so grateful for the sacrifice Jesus made for the world. I think it was special because it began our term, and this gives us more time to build on our knowledge and learning more about Easter. I really enjoyed creating a prayer with my class in the Heart of Wisdom Garden. – Oscar and Sarah – Year 4

Our Christian Value for this half term is Faithfulness

“If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will tell this mountain, ‘move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.” – Matthew 17

“Faith is taking the first step, even when you don’t see the whole staircase.” – Martin Luther King

You can help your child to understand this value by discussing stories with them. Talk about the characters and their faith in what they were doing or what they wanted to achieve. Talk about your family beliefs and how faith can give us all hope. Discuss how we can have faith in one another and how kindness and trust are important.