

Our curriculum is informed by:

- Our school context
- What our children need
- Evidence-informed practice and research



St Nicholas^{CE}
First School

Walking in the footsteps of Jesus.

John 8v12 "Jesus spoke to them saying, I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

Our RE Curriculum

Why here? Why now?

Early Years	
Learning Focus Learning Focus Faith Type World View Link School Value	Why here? Why now?
Harvest	Our youngest children will have been attending Nursery for only a short period of time. During these sessions children will have the chance to learn about the festival of harvest and make links to our school lunchtime prayer knowing that farmers provide food. Our nursery children will have the opportunity to bring in a food donation for the Harvest Festival.
What makes a person special? Abrahamic Respect	Psalm 139:14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. As our Reception children settle into school life at St Nicholas it is the perfect time to find out more about each other and this unit offers opportunities to do this. Children will look at pictures of each other and find out what makes them unique. They will talk about special times in their life such as birthdays and will be introduced to Jesus and know that he too had a birthday. Our Reception children will learn about the story of The Lost Sheep and know that God loves every one.
Diwali & Christmas Dharmic & Abrahamic	Children in Nursery will learn about two different festivals as they naturally arise and as their families will encounter/celebrate them at home too. We have chosen these 2 festivals as it is important that children understand Christmas as the festival most families celebrate and to give an experience of Hinduism which is not one of the other main faiths we study at St Nicholas. Children will have the opportunity to hear both the story of Rama and Sita and the story of the birth of Jesus. They will be able to explore these stories through their continuous provision activities. Children will begin to understand how different faiths celebrate festivals.
Why do Christians perform nativity plays at Christmas? Abrahamic	Luke 2:12 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. During this half term Reception children will hear and act out the Christmas story. Children will be introduced to the fact that Christians believe that Jesus was a special baby because he came from God and that Christians believe that Jesus was God born as a baby. This will introduce them to the concept of the Trinity which they will experience and know of from their participation in school worship. Children will hear the story for the first time read from a Bible. During this term Reception children will also start attending singing practice so they will hear and begin to learn traditional Christmas carols which will then be talked about in class and how they fit into the nativity story.
Chinese New Year Shrove Tuesday	In the February of the New Year, children in Nursery will have the opportunity to hear the story of Chinese New Year. Although this is not a religious festival we have chosen to include it given that we have historically always had at least one family for whom this was a major festival. Although non religious, it gives children an understanding of other ways that festivals can bring people together. They will also begin to learn about Shrove Tuesday and its importance to Christians.
Why are some stories special? Abrahamic Humanistic Respect care	Proverbs 1:5 A wise man will hear and increase in learning. In the Autumn term children were introduced to The Bible through the story of the birth of Jesus. They will now revisit the book and look at other stories within it. Through these stories children will learn that Jesus was a great helper and will reflect upon how they can also be great helpers. Children will learn that Christians believe that it is wise to do as Jesus says. This reinforces the school vision of "Walking In The Footsteps of Jesus" and following his path as the "light of the world". In this unit of work children are also introduced to Islam and will hear a story from the Islamic faith. They will reflect upon the meaning of the story, that we should all care for God's wonderful world no matter what faith we belong or do not belong to. Alongside Sikhism we have chosen to study Islam given that the surrounding area has large faith communities of both religions and religious buildings that children can see and visit.
Holi Easter Eid-Al-Fitr	In Nursery children will learn about how these three festivals are celebrated making links to their own experiences. The festival of Holi or as it is sometimes known as the festival of colour will allow children to investigate and play with different colours and create patterns. This supports their development of language around colour and description. In this half term Nursery Children will hear parts of the Easter story and will understand that at Easter Christians traditionally have Easter Eggs. They will also know that Jesus went to heaven to be with God the Father. Typically we will invite parents in to school for an Easter celebration with their child. Children will be introduced to a new faith, Islam and will look at how Muslims celebrate Eid- Al- Fitr
Why do Christians put a cross in the Easter Garden? Abrahamic Trust Care	Luke 5: 20 "When Jesus saw their faith, he said, 'Friend, your sins are forgiven.' In this unit children in Reception will begin to understand why the cross is a special symbol to Christians and builds upon the knowledge that Jesus is God's Son and that He loves and cares for every one. Children will hear the story of the Last Supper and Good Friday. Children will hear the word forgiveness and will begin to have an understanding that for Christians the cross is a symbol of forgiveness.

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What happens in a church? Abrahamic Dharmic. Respect	Matthew 18:20 For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them. Children in Reception will have visited the church at Christmas time and so this unit builds upon this first hand experience of taking part in a collective act of worship in church. Children will get to visit the church and see the different parts. Children will know that the church is a special building for Christians and is a special place in the community of Codsall. This is laying foundations for future local area study work they will undertake in Y2 History. By the Summer term children will know that they say prayers at different times of the day, and they will learn that Christians often pray as part of their worship at St Nicholas church. During this time children will also learn about gurdwaras as a place of worship for the Sikh community.
Raksha Bandhan Dharmic.	This festival celebrate the relationships of brothers and sisters and if often celebrated with Hindu's giving each other friendship bracelets. This is the perfect time for children to learn about this festival and to reflect upon the friends they have made and look forward to their time in Reception and how they can make new friends.
How can we care for our wonderful world? Abrahamic Care	Genesis 1:1-31 God made the heavens and the earth and it was good In this unit our young children are introduced to the idea of being courageous advocates and walking in the footsteps of Jesus. Here they are taught that Jesus created the world and that they are responsible for the stewardship of it. Children are encouraged to think about how they can treasure the world that God has given and what they could do to make a difference. This will give the children an introduction to what being part of the Eco committee will be like ready for them to apply for a position on the Eco council in Year 1.