

## ABOUT THE UNIT

In this unit the children will explore the story of Pentecost and the transformation in their lives after receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit.

## WHERE THE UNIT FITS IN

This unit builds on some important foundational work in Nursery about the Holy Spirit coming to the apostles of Jesus in the form of wind.

## PRIOR LEARNING

It would be helpful if children have:

opportunities to reflect on changes that have taken place in their lives – moments of sadness to moments of happiness.

## SKILLS

Listening, drama, dance, sequencing skills, empathetic writing, recognising and interpreting symbolism.

## VOCABULARY

Pentecost, Holy Spirit, fire, wind, sadness, happiness.

## ASSESSMENT

At the end of this unit:

**Most children will** know parts of the story of Pentecost and recognise some of the changes that took place in the Apostles. They will also know some of the symbols the Church uses to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost.

**Less able children will** know some elements of the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

**More able children will** retell the story of Pentecost with confidence. Be able to think about how the Holy Spirit helped the apostles.

A.T.1    A.T.2

N/a    N/a

## PROGRAMME OF STUDY

## TEACHING STRATEGIES

**R6** Hear, read and become familiar with the main events, characters and places in the life of Jesus.

Begin this unit of work by recalling Nursery work on Pentecost that sometimes things happen but we can't see why (e.g. effect of wind).

Discuss with children times when they have felt frightened or worried. Why? Circle time – "I felt worried when ....."

Explain to the children that this was what happened to Jesus' friends when he went away.

Introduce the story of Pentecost by thinking about the disciples locked in the upper room sad and afraid because Jesus had died.

Hear the story of Pentecost in a simple form.

Focus on feelings of the disciples before they received Spirit and after wards.

Use music and movement as a way of expressing the different thoughts and feelings of the disciples.

Create a simple Pentecost dance using powerful classical music for the wind and the fire.

Ask the children to recall the time somebody in their family made a promise to them. What was it like when it came true?

Explain that Jesus had promised to send the disciples the Holy Spirit and that on Pentecost day they remembered that Jesus kept his promise.

Sequence story of Pentecost using pictures. According to ability write accompanying sentences as whole class/groups or individually.

**C1** Take part in celebrations which express thanks and praise.

Explore with the children some of the things that happen in church for Pentecost. Revise from Nursery the colour of the feast day and reasons why red might be chosen.

Revisit the sign of the cross and remind the children that we remember the Holy Spirit every time we use our special sign at prayer.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

**R6** That Jesus is the Son of God; that Mary heard God and said yes; that the cross is the sign of Jesus' love; that Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit; that the Bible is God's book.

Hear the story of Pentecost.

Know that Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit.

Know that Pentecost is the day that the Holy Spirit came to the disciples and is a special celebration for the Church.

**C1** That celebrations express thanksgiving, joy, unity and love.

**R2** That the Sign of the Cross names Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Know that the Sign of the Cross is a prayer to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

## FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Ensure that the prayer focus displays the liturgical colour red for Pentecost.

Learn a simple Holy Spirit song.

# RELATED SCRIPTURE

*Acts 2: 1-4 – The Pentecost Story*

## OTHER LINKS

Science and geography links:  
Look at some of the properties of wind and fire.  
Drama and dance and use of music are important links to look at the dramatic coming of the Holy Spirit.

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Children to learn a song naming the Holy Spirit.  
Revise the Sign of the Cross including the Holy Spirit.  
Use symbols and colours of Pentecost in class prayer time.

## EVALUATION

**What went well?**

**Which areas of planning need to be developed/adapted next time?**

**What needs to be revisited/developed in a later unit?**