



TERM 2/YEAR 1/CHRISTMAS
CELEBRATE THE GOOD NEWS

SEAL link - New beginnings

Values link - Peace

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p>CHRISTMAS BIDDING</p> <p>We meet in the presence of God.... who was born on Christmas Day</p> <p>Play carols Such as 'Joy to the World'</p>	<p>GOOD NEWS (whole school) Isaiah 9 v 2 and 6 Encourage children to share good news with you/each other. Look at good news stories from school (interview a pre-briefed pupil(s) about this if possible) or newspapers and discuss what make news "good". This is good news from the Old Testament telling about something that would happen in the future for everyone to look forward to. You could focus on the idea of light (v2) or on one of the titles from the prophecy (v6). Be enthusiastic about the excitement generated by this 'good news'</p> <p>GOOD NEWS FOR MARY (whole school) Luke 1 v 26-38 An angel brought good news to Mary. This is a good opportunity to talk about angels as messengers or good news bringers (to dispel less helpful images!). Use paintings from different artists to explore how angels have been portrayed and why Did Mary think that this was good news? Why/why not? Why did she think that it was good news after the angel had delivered God's message? – because of what the angel told her about the baby she would have (see prophecies in previous act of worship)</p>	<p>Son of Mary, Son of God, we have joined the worship of the angels; may we never lose that heavenly vision. Like the shepherds, we have rejoiced at the news of your birth; help us to proclaim that message in word and deed, to your praise and glory. Amen.</p> <p>Ask pupils to write thank you prayers related to good news and use them in your worship</p> <p>Use images of Christmas art to help pupils to reflect on the true message of Christmas</p>	<p>An 'echo' prayer:</p> <p>Go in peace, We go in peace Go in joy We go in joy Go in love We go in love Amen.</p> <p>or</p> <p>Leave singing joyful Christmas carols</p>



	<p>GOOD NEWS FOR THE SHEPHERDS (whole school) Luke 2 v 8-20 It is interesting to see to whom God chose to declare the good news of the birth of Jesus first of all. St Luke has a particular interest in the poorer members of society in his Gospel – he believes that God sent Jesus as a gift for all people including the lowest in society, of which shepherds were a good example. Again, you might be able to find some paintings showing this scene. How might the shepherds have responded to the news? How did they respond? Did their actions show that they believed it to be good news? Perhaps ‘interview’ one of the shepherds – year 5 or 6 pupils might want to write and present an interview (complete with costumes and props)</p>	<p>Pray for people around the world who will not experience peace this Christmas</p>	
<p>PEACE ON EARTH (Key Stage or class worship) Luke 2 v 14 This verse is often quoted as a summary of the “good news” of Christmas. Explore what it actually means. For younger pupils, you could look at a story such as ‘Peace at last’ – talk about this peace as quiet and absence of noise and busy-ness, but also about peace in relationships. For older pupils, you could use music such as ‘Let there be peace on earth’ and explore the words with them. For all pupils: Can peace be a reality for everybody? How can we help to make it so?</p>			