

Christ at the centre, children at the heart.

'The education which the Church promotes looks to the integral development of the human person. Its purpose is to cultivate the intellect and develop the capacity for right judgement, to help young people to assimilate their cultural heritage and form a sense of moral and ethical readiness for their future professional, civic, family and national responsibilities'.

Pope John Paul II

As a Catholic school, we believe it is very important that pupils learn to respect the faiths and beliefs which others hold. Therefore, children are given the opportunity to learn about other cultures and faiths throughout their time at Our Lady of the Rosary.

The Church calls us to be committed to respecting people from other religions and to recognise that God is at work within them, our brothers and sisters. Pupils are encouraged not merely to learn facts about other religions but to also reflect upon them and gain insight from them. Children are taught to be respectful and understanding of people and traditions from other faith backgrounds.

Throughout the year, we have multifaith weeks when the children focus on different elements of the faith, they are studying e.g. key beliefs, holy books, places of worship, holy days and festivals. The teaching about other religions is important because:

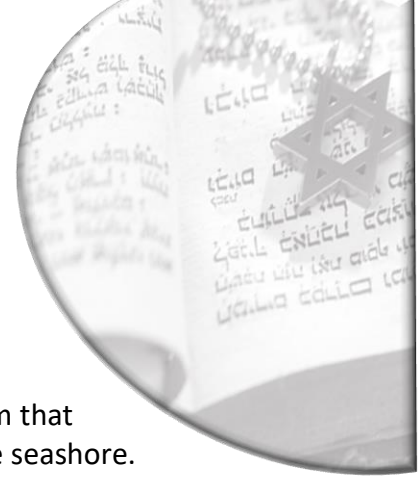
- Learning about other religions and cultures is one of the ways in which we fulfil our call to love our neighbour. As the Church says, 'The love for all men and women is necessarily also a love for their culture. Catholic schools are, by their very vocation, intercultural' (Congregation for Catholic Education)
- The Church states that schools 'try to understand better the religion of one's neighbours, and to experience something of their religious life and culture' (Catholic Bishops' Conference)
- It prepares our children for life in modern Britain, giving them an understanding of the beliefs of others.



Overview: Learning about Judaism

AGE	THEME	FOCUS	CONNECT	DISCOVER	RESPECT
Nursery/Reception	Special days	Hanukkah	There are special days	The story of the oil lamp in the Temple	God cares for His people
Year 1 and Year 2	Stories	Abraham and Moses	We all have stories	Abraham and Moses as faith leaders	How God lead the Jewish people
	Prayer/home	Shabbat	Families gather	Shabbat	Shabbat the day for God, the day of rest
Year 3 and Year 4	Places of worship	The Synagogue	There are special places	The Synagogue	The importance of the synagogue
	Holy Books	The Torah	Books are important	The Torah	The importance of the Torah
Year 5 and Year 6	Beliefs ad festivals	Pesach	There are times for remembering	Pesach	God cares for His people
	Belonging and values	Yom Kipper	Making a new start	Yom Kipper	The value of atonement

My Learning: *Judaism*



Year One and Year Two

We learn about the figures of Abraham and Moses:

Key Vocabulary: Abraham, Moses, leader, Pharaoh, slavery

Abraham is considered the father of the Jewish people. God promised Abraham that his descendants would be as many as the stars in the heaven or the sand or the seashore. He helped people understand that there was only one God.

Moses was a descendant of Abraham. God chose Moses to be a leader of the Jewish people. Moses led the Jewish people out of Egypt, where the Pharaoh had treated them harshly as slaves. He led them to their own promised land.

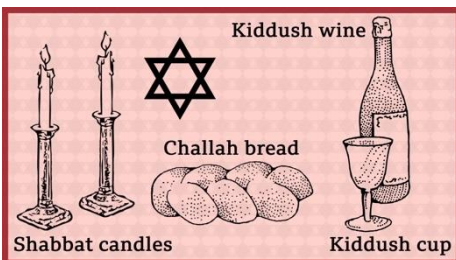


SCAN ME

We learn about Shabbat, the day of rest:

Key Vocabulary: creation, Shabbat, Sabbath, sunset, kiddush, challah

In the Creation story, God created the heavens and earth, plants, animals and people over six days. On the seventh day, He rested.



Shabbat begins each week, on Friday at sunset and lasts until Saturday at sunset.

The Shabbat meal takes place on Friday evening for Jewish people. The family come together and share a special meal together without any distractions. It is a very special family social time and links back to the Ten commandments: Keep the Sabbath day holy.

Year Three and Year Four

We learn about the Jewish place of worship: The Synagogue

Key Vocabulary: worship, synagogue, shul, kippah, tallit, shawl

The **synagogue** is a special building where the Jewish people meet to pray, study and celebrate. If possible, synagogues are built facing the direction of where the Temple was in Jerusalem. The synagogue is often called the **shul** which is the Yiddish word for 'school'.

The outside is decorated with a six-sided star (**The Star of David**). There are no statues because the Jewish people believe that would go against the second of the ten commandments: *You shalt not worship idols*.

When boys and men go into the synagogue, they must cover their heads. The little round cap they wear is called a **kippah**. Men also often wear a **tallit**, which is a prayer shawl over their shoulders. These are worn as a sign of respect and a reminder that God is present in the synagogue.



We learn about the Torah, a very special book for the Jewish people.

Key Vocabulary: Tanakh, Torah, Hebrew



The Tanakh is the Hebrew Bible containing 39 books. It has three parts, **the Torah**, the Prophets and the Writings. The Torah is a collection of laws, commandments, rules and stories (what Christians call the Old Testament). The Torah, which is written by hand and in Hebrew, is very special for the Jewish people and they consider it to be the greatest gift God has given them.

The Torah is believed to be the word of God. All Jewish people use the Torah to help guide their lives.

We learn about the Jewish festival of Passover (Pesach).

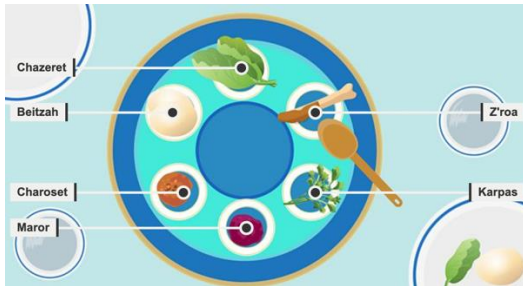


SCAN ME

Key Vocabulary: Passover, Pesach, seder, kosher, Exodus, matzah, charoset

Pesach (the Jewish word for Passover) is the festival where Jewish people come together to remember the story of how God delivered them from slavery in Egypt, how God takes care of them still today and how there is still the need for freedom in some places of the world. It is a spring festival that begins on the 15th day of Nisan, the first month of the Jewish calendar.

Jewish people believe that through the story of Exodus, we are told of how God passed over his people so that no disasters could happen to them and lead them to freedom. Passover is celebrated with a series of rituals, each symbolising a different part of the story of Exodus.



The evening before the Passover starts, Jews have a special service called a Seder (order).

The Seder plate contains a number of food items with special symbolic significance.

On the table are also three matzah (flat bread).

We learn about the Jewish special holiday, Yom Kippur.

Key Vocabulary: Rosh Hashanah, Teshuvah, forgiveness, repentance, Yom Kippur

Rosh Hashanah (beginning of the year) marks the beginning of the new year of the Jewish calendar. It takes place in September/October and lasts for ten days. It ends with the celebration of **Yom Kippur** (the day of atonement). Yom Kippur is the holiest day of the Jewish year. It is a day when no work is allowed.

For Jewish people, Rosh Hashanah is a time to look back over the past year. They say sorry for any wrongdoing '**Teshuvah**' which means returning to God. This day of atonement marks the end of the Jewish high holy days and offers a chance for people to pray and ask for repentance.

We live in a world that is struggling for peace and is often at odds over varying belief systems and values. A study of religions helps you to understand how those major belief systems are represented in different religious traditions.

Respecting the Jewish faith:

- **Shabbat is the day for God, the day of rest.**
- **The synagogue is an important place of worship for the Jewish people.**
- **The Torah is believed to be the word of God. All Jewish people use the Torah to help guide their lives.**
- **Passover (Pesach) marks the events where God watched over his people and through Moses led his people away from slavery.**
- **Yom Kippur is the Jewish day of atonement, where they ask God for forgiveness and return to God.**

Overview: Learning about Islam

AGE	THEME	FOCUS	CONNECT	DISCOVER	RESPECT
Nursery/Reception	Special days	Prayer mats	Special objects	Prayer mats and the Qur'an	What is special for Muslims
Year 1 and Year 2	Stories	Muhammad	Special stories	Muhammad	Muhammad is important for Muslim people
	Prayer/home	Prayer at home	Quiet times	Prayer five times a day	Prayer is important for Muslims
Year 3 and Year 4	Places of worship	The mosque	Special buildings	Friday is a day of special prayer. Call to prayer.	How Muslim people worship
	Holy Books	The Qur'an	Important books	The Qur'an. 99 beautiful names of God.	Th importance of the Qur'an for Muslims.
Year 5 and Year 6	Beliefs ad festivals	Ramadan and Pilgrimage	Special times	Shahadah Ramadan, Id-ul-Fitr, Id-ul-Adha Hajj	Respect for the special occasions for Muslim people
	Belonging and values	Guidance for Muslims	Guidance in life	The 5 pillars Zakat	What is important for Muslims.

My Learning: *Islam*



SCAN ME

We learn about Muhammad, a special person for Muslims:

Key Vocabulary: Muhammad, Ka'bah, Qur'an, Allah, prophet.

The special person for Muslims is **Muhammad**. He was a religious man and used to prayer for many hours. One day, when he was out alone in the mountains praying, an angel spoke to him and told him about Allah, the one God. Mohammad told many people that there was only one God, **Allah** and that people should be kind to one another. He told people how Allah wanted them to live. This message was later written down in the holy book called the **Qur'an**.

Muslims respect Muhammad as a special person and the last prophet of Allah.

We learn about how Muslims pray at home:

Key Vocabulary: prayer, Allah, wudu

Muslims learn to pray at home with their family. Prayer and family are very important to Muslims. They pray five times every day: early morning, midday, afternoon, after sunset and at nightfall. Muslims can pray anywhere that is clean and quiet.

Before prayer: Muslims take their shoes off, cover their heads, wash (wudu) and roll out their pray mats.

During prayer: There are nine movements in their prayer including standing, kneeling and bowing low, and touching the ground with their foreheads. This is to show that they are respectful to Allah. There is a set pattern to prayer, which includes a special praise and thanks to Allah, asking for forgiveness.



We learn about the Muslim place of worship: The Mosque

Key Vocabulary: Mosque, minaret, muezzin, mu'adhin

The Imam is the leader of the mosque.



Newcastle

A Muslim place of worship is called a **Mosque**, which means a place to bow down. For Muslims the mosque is a very special place where they go to pray, meet people and study.



Stockton

Mosques usually have a tall tower called a **minaret**, from where people are called to worship five times a day. The man who makes this call is called a mu'adhin or muezzin. Larger mosques have a dome which represents the arch of heavens above the earth. Mosques often have beautiful mosaic decoration.

We learn about the Qur'an, a very special book for the Muslim people.

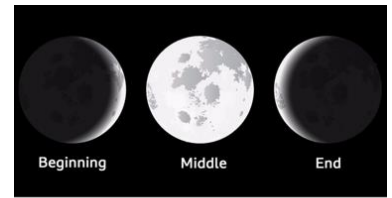
Key Vocabulary: Qur'an, Muhammad

The **Qur'an** is the Muslims' most holy book. Muslims believe that it contains the actual words of Allah which were spoken to **Muhammad** by the angel. Muhammad told some of his followers the messages and they wrote it down in Arabic.

The words of the Qur'an remain unchanged since the time of Mohammad. In it, Allah tells Muslims how they should worship him and how they should behave towards each other. Muslims believe the Qur'an to be sacred and it is always handled with the greatest respect and honour.



We learn about the Ramadan and the Hajj



Ramadan starts when the new Moon first appears in the night sky. Full moon marks the middle of Ramadan. As the moon wanes to the other side, Ramadan finishes.

Key Vocabulary: Ramadan, fasting, Eid-ul-Fitr, pilgrimage, Hajj, Mecca



SCAN ME

The ninth month in the Muslim calendar, is called **Ramadan**. It is the month when Allah first gave his message to Mohammad. Muslims observe Ramadan by **fasting** for the whole month (unless you are very old, very young or unwell.)

Fasting during Ramadan, means that Muslims do not eat or drink during daylight hours. Muslims also try and do more good deeds and pray more during this time.

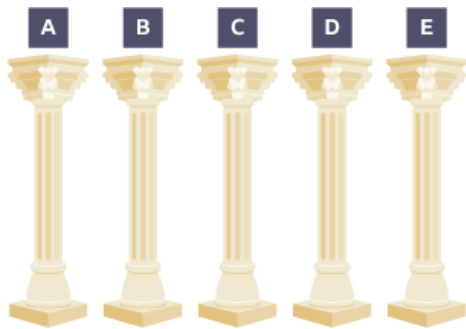
The Islamic calendar is based on the moon. The first day after the month of Ramadan is called **Eid-ul-Fitr** which means 'festival of fast breaking' and it starts when there is a new moon. Eid lasts for 3 days and is a time of celebration for Muslims so that they can give thanks to Allah for giving Muslims the strength and self-control they needed to fast during Ramadan.

Two months after Ramadan, some Muslims will make a pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia, the holiest place for Muslims. This annual pilgrimage is known as the **Hajj**. Every Muslim is expected to make the pilgrimage at least once in their lifetime.



We learn about guidance given to Muslims, through the Five Pillars of Islam

Key Vocabulary: Guidance, shahadah, salah, zakah, sawm, Hajj



- A Shahadah - Declaration of faith
- B Salah - Prayer
- C Zakah - Charity
- D Sawm - Fasting
- E Hajj - Pilgrimage

Shahadah: the most important pillar which sums up what Muslims believe - 'There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his messenger'

Salah: the requirement for Muslims to pray five times a day.

Zakah: Muslims should give to the poor.

Sawm: During the month of Ramadan, Muslims should fast and go without eating and drinking during daylight hours.

Hajj: Once in a lifetime pilgrimage to the holy places in Mecca.

Respecting the Islamic faith:

- Muhammad is important to Muslim people and believed to be the last prophet of Allah.
- Muslim's believe in one God, Allah.
- Prayer is very important to Muslims; they pray 5 times a day.
- The Qur'an is the special holy book for Muslims. It tells them how to behave and be kind to other people.
- Ramadan is a month of fasting that Muslims take part in as soon as they are old enough.
- Muslims go on pilgrimage to Mecca, their very holy place in Saudi Arabia.

