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Lighting a Spark in Every Child

November 2014

Newsletter 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

We regularly send home newsletters about the work going on at school in relation to Collective Worship, Religious Education and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development.

Collective Worship

In November we are thinking about 'Faith'.

We will be thinking about why faith is so important to some people. We will be learning more about some of the world's key faiths and inviting visitors of different faiths to Collective Worship so they can tell us about some of the important aspects of their faith.



Questions you could ask about the different faiths, include:

Sacred texts

- What is the sacred text for the faith?
- Are there similarities and differences between the sacred texts from different faiths?
- How should the sacred text be handled?



Prayer

- Do all people who have a faith pray?
- How do people of different faiths pray?



Places of Worship

- What is the place of worship for the faith?
- Are there special 'rules' for the place of worship?
- Are there similarities and differences between the places of worship from different faiths?
- What is the significance of each element of worship?



Artefacts

- What are the special artefacts for the faith?



Celebrations

- What are the special celebrations for the faith?
- Are there similarities and differences between the celebrations from different faiths?



Which Faiths are represented at TSG?

At Toddington St George Church of England School we have children who are Christians including Roman Catholics, Hindus, Muslims, Jehovah's Witnesses and children who have no faith.

Key World Faith Facts (Source- Woodlands Junior School)

Christianity

Christianity is the world's biggest religion, with about 2.2 billion followers worldwide. It is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ who lived in the Holy Land 2,000 years ago.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Place of Origin | Israel |
| Founder | Jesus of Nazareth |
| Sacred Text | The Bible - Old and New Testaments |
| Sacred Building | Church, Chapel, Cathedral |
| Holy Places | Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Lourdes (a popular place of pilgrimage), Rome, Canterbury |
| Major Festivals | Easter, Christmas, |
| Main Branches | Anglican, Roman Catholic, Free Churches, Orthodox, Reformed, |

Islam

Islam is the second most popular religion in the world with over a thousand million followers. It is more often thought of as a complete way of life rather than a religion. Islam began in Arabia and was revealed to humanity by the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). Those who follow Islam are called Muslims. Muslims believe that there is only one God, called Allah.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Place of Origin | Saudi Arabia |
| Founder | Muslims believe in a chain of prophets starting with Adam. |
| Sacred Text | The Qur'an |
| Sacred Building | Mosque |
| Holy Places | Mecca, Medina, Jerusalem |
| Major Festivals | Ramadan, Eid-ul-Fitr, Eid-ul-Adha |

Hinduism

Hinduism is the world's third most popular religion, with around 750 million followers. The religion of Hinduism originated in Northern India, near the river Indus, about 4000 years ago and is the world's oldest existing religion.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Place of Origin | India |
| Founder | Developed out of Brahminism |
| Sacred Text | Vedas, Upanishads |
| Sacred Building | Mandir |
| Major Festivals | Divali |
| Holy Place | River Ganges is one of many holy places |



Judaism

Judaism is the oldest of the world's four biggest monotheistic religions (religions with only one god). It's also the smallest, with only about 12 million followers around the world.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Place of Origin | Israel |
| Founder | Abraham |
| Sacred Text | The TeNaCh (Torah, Nevi'im, Ketuvim) |
| Sacred Building | Synagogue |
| Holy Place | Jerusalem |
| Major Festivals | Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, Pesach (Passover), Shavuot (Pentecost), Sukkot (Tabernacles) |
| Main Branches | Orthodox, Reform, Conservative |

Buddism

Buddhism began in North Eastern India and is based on the teachings of Siddhartha Gautama. The religion is 2,500 years old and is followed by 350 million Buddhists worldwide.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Place of Origin | North East India |
| Founder | Siddhartha Gautama (The Buddha) |
| Sacred Text | Tripitaka |
| Sacred Building | Stupa |
| Major Festivals | Wesak |
| Main Branches (Denominations) | Theravada, Mahayana, Tibetan, Chinese and Japanese groups including Soto and Zen |

Sikhism

Sikhism is one of the world's youngest religions being founded just over 500 years ago. Despite being so young, it is the fifth largest religion in the world with over 20 million followers.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Place of Origin | The Punjab (Panjab or Panj), an area of Northern India |
| Founder | Guru Nanak |
| Sacred Text | Guru Granth Sahib |
| Sacred Building | Gurdwara |
| Holy Place | Nankana Sahib, where the founder of the Sikh religion, Guru Nanak Dev was born. |
| Major Festivals | Hola Mohalla - February/March - a time for contests when Sikhs show their skills at athletics, horsemanship and martial arts. Baisakhi - March/April - New Year's Day in the Punjab. Diwali - October - a festival when the story of Hargobind, the sixth Guru, is told. Guru Nanak's Birthday - October/November- The Guru Granth Sahib is carried through the streets by five men. |

Success Shields

These are given as recognition of an achievement outside of school. Children who have already received a shield are:

October

Luca Evans

TRFC Medal

Ethan Lawrence

TRFC First Tournament Medal

Paul Cooper

TRFC First Tournament Medal

Amy Davies

Street dance Star

Louis Goodall

Selected for MK football

Streetdance Star

Football competition 2nd

Maizi Holloway

TRFC Player of the Match

Lewis Batt

TRFC Player of the Match

Jemima Cornelius

Toddington Village Show

Funniest Tomato

Cody Brogan

Toddington Village Show Collage

Isabella Bacon

Toddington Village Show

1st Fish Mosaic

Isobel Squires

Karate 10th Kyu

Micky Ustan

Streetdance Star

Shae Downey

Solo Dance Trophy

Olivia Lawrence

Streetdance Star

Lucy Brown

Street dance Star

Jacob Leigh

Toddington Village Show

1st Cheese straws / floral arrangement/ 5 tomatoes on a plate/ 3rd pumpkin carving

Jamie Emerson

TRFC First Tournament Medal

Player of the Match

Chayse White

TRFC First Tournament Medal

Matthew Hall

TRFC First Tournament Medal

Ellie Lefkaditis

Street dance Star

Best Student Karate

Grace Lydon

Toddington Village Show

3rd Decorating cakes

Scarlett Miles

Gymnastics L6

Archie Adams

Street dance Star

Liam Williams

Toddington Village Show

1st Potato person / 2nd Still life

Jamie Batt

TRFC Player of the Match

Logan Faulkner

Toddington Village Show

2nd Funniest vegetable

Jack Miles

Gymnastics L2

Ethan Lawrence

Streetdance Star

Emily Stratford

Gymnastics L7, 8

Swimming L1, 2, 3

Dylan Adams

Streetdance Star

Dimitris Lefkaditis

Karate 5th Kyu

Florrie Hydes

Brownie Promise /

Toddington Village Show

2nd Friendship bracelet

3rd Chocolate Brownies

Harry Crawley

TRFC First Tournament Medal

Scarlett Miles

TRFC First Tournament Medal

Valentino Rawson

Streetdance Star

Daisy Harding

Dance Grade 1

Leo Stone

Toddington Village Show

3rd Farmyard collage

Ruby Tite

Street dance Star

Martha Butchart

Street dance Star

Sophia Clark

Toddington Village Show

1st Floral arrangement/ Jam tarts

Zara Tough

Brownie Badge Animal Friend

Archie Dudley

Student of the Month

Little Samurai Warriors

Eve Davies

Streetdance Star

Roxy Schapp-Garratt

Gymnastics L6

Swaraja Sarma

Football Medal

Tilly Slater-Clasper

Streetdance Star

May McLean

Gymnastics / Swimming

Eva Rawson

1st, 2nd, 4th Riding Club

Streetdance Star

Toddington Village Show still life

First Toddington Brownies £300 pounds for MacMillan Cancer Support

Lucy Buckingham / Jenny DeFilippo / Sophie Young / Abigail Young / Lucy Brown Jessie Squires / Leanne Heyes / Nala Wildman / Tilly Slater-Clasper / Erin Stack

If you have any further comments or suggestions please speak or write to Mrs Collins.

Thank you

