R.E. through the Early years at St Mary's

Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. I addition, listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems will foster their understanding of our culturally, technologically and ecologically diverse world.

In Nursery we teach R.E. through the EYFS area of Understanding the World. In Reception we teach R.E. using the Emmanuel units

Nursery

In Nursery children learn about the Big Ideas **Faith, Understanding and Acceptance** through class Worship, talk time on the carpet, through Bible stories, by supporting children's behaviour during play and responding to children's behaviour and attitudes, through Christian value observations and certificates.

Faith

Nursery children learn about the Christian **Faith** through class Worship. Children learn that Jesus is the light of the world and that Christians sometimes light a candle when they pray to God. They listen to age appropriate bible stories such as Noah's ark, The Creation story and The good Samaritan. Nursery children say a morning and going home prayer and learn that Christians believe that God listens to our prayers. Children and adults with other **Faiths** are encouraged to talk about them and share their experiences.

Understanding

Nursery children are encouraged to have enquiring minds and any questions or comments about **Faith** are explored during talk time on the carpet and all ideas are valued. Discussions include respect, thankfulness, kindness and friendship because these are concepts Nursery children can understand. Children begin to compare similarities and differences between different families, cultures and **Faiths.**

Acceptance

Nursery children are encouraged to listen to each other's views, thoughts and feelings and understand that everyone has similarities and differences, including **Faith**.

By the end of their time in nursery children will have had opportunities to:

- Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history.
- Continue to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people.

Reception

In Reception we build upon the children's understanding of **Faith, Understanding and Acceptance** through the Emmanuel units 'Why is the word 'God' so important to Christians?' 'Why do Christians perform nativity plays at Christmas?' 'How can we help others when they need it? 'Why do Christians put a cross in an Easter garden?' 'How can we care for our wonderful world?' 'What makes every single person unique and precious?'

Faith

Reception children predominantly learn about the Christian **Faith** through the Emmanuel units. They learn about Salvation, Incarnation and Creation. We sometimes learn about other **Faiths** such as the Muslim birth custom.

Understanding

Through the Emmanuel units, Reception children investigate Christianity through Bible stories, other stories, discussions, role play, art and writing.

Acceptance

Reception children learn to respect each other's similarities and differences including the belief of Christians and the belief of other Faiths.

By the end of their time in Reception children will have had opportunities to:

- Talk about members of their immediate family and community.
- Name and describe people who are familiar to them.
- Understand that some places are special to members of the community.
- Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.
- Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and in life in other countries.

By the end of their time in Reception most children will be able to:

- Know some similarities and differences between different religions and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in cless.