



Aspire to Greatness

R.E. in St Stephen's School!



Context of the School

- 12 classes including nursery
- 30% FSM and serves 2 of the most deprived wards in Preston
- 49% EAL
- Faith based context – church, new mosque, Sikh Gurdwara, Hindu temple and Buddhist community in the area. Faith communities supportive of one another.
- Controlled C of E school with a distinctively Christian character
- 322 pupils – 1 and half form entry





R.E. Curriculum



The school teaches Christianity units from the Diocesan Syllabus and units from the Lancashire Agreed Syllabus so that the children receive teaching about faiths within the area as well as learn more of Christian beliefs and traditions.

There are 3 enrichment days (around Festival times) within the year which enable the school's predominant faith communities to deepen the children's understanding of Christianity, Hinduism and Islam. Around these days the school invites members of the community to lead workshops and there are enriching activities for the children.

Visits to places of faith take place throughout the year and we organise a visiting speaker or visit for each unit of work in R.E.



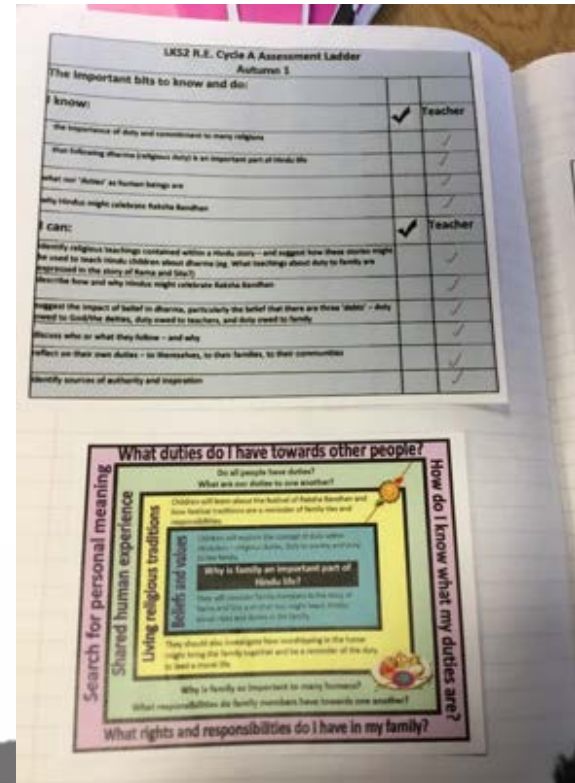
Lower Junior work on Hinduism

Autumn Term Enrichment Day for the whole school – Diwali. The Hinduism units are explored amidst the whole school celebrations where children experience the awe and wonder within communities. In Lower Juniors, they learned more about the meaning of dharma, the Raksha Bandhan festival and faith in families.



Why is family an important part of Hindu Life?

The specific knowledge and skills from this unit are shared with pupils at the start of the unit so that they know what they will learn. Over the course of the several weeks, children develop greater understanding of key concepts and learn new vocabulary.



Knowledge Organisers are good reference tools for the language and key knowledge children are taught within the unit

Year 3 and 4 Knowledge Organiser for Hindu dharma

Why is family an important part of Hindu Life?

Truth Is Elevated	Dharma	Reincarnation	Moksha
Hindus are encouraged to learn.	Dharma means to do the right thing with good intentions.	Hindus believe a soul cannot be destroyed, so when a Hindu dies, their soul enters a new living being.	Moksha is the ultimate goal. It happens when a soul stops being reincarnated and is reunited with Brahman.

The Hindu festival of Raksha Bandhan, or Rakhi, celebrates the bond between brothers and sisters. It is celebrated on the day of the full moon, usually in the middle of August.



Most Hindus follow the path of love. This takes the form of devotion or worship at a shrine. The home acts as a centre for Hindu family life and so in almost every Hindu home there will be a small shrine with pictures or statues of one or more gods or goddesses to which the family will offer puja (worship).

The Story of Rama and Sita

In the story King Dasharatha keeps his promise to his wife.

Rama obeys his father, Sita goes into exile with her husband, Lakshman is the loyal brother – Hanuman is not a family member, but represents the idea of devotion to God.

The Hindu's learn from the story that as humans our duties change during the course of our lives.



What makes a family a family?

What are the different roles and responsibilities that family members have?

How do families develop the individual person and the community?

What behaviours and values might

Key vocabulary

Duty – A moral obligation dharma – underlying right behaviour and social order.

Rama – Rama is an incarnation of Vishnu, God of Protection.

Sita – She is the consort of the god Rama. Raksha Bandhan- Hindu festival

Retrieval and responses to key questions

What examples of Dharma can you see in the story of Rama & Sita?

Rama's dharma was to: protect Sita, save his wife ✓
Sita's dharma was to: be a helpful person, be kind ✓
Hanuman's dharma was to: fight good over evil ✓
Hanuman: to help Rama ✓

The Ramayana (the story of Rama and Sita) is popular with all ages – why might different Hindus take different messages from the story?

It teaches you to be helpful ✓
It teaches you to fight good over evil ✓
It teaches you to have a kind heart ✓
It teaches you to help those in need. ✓

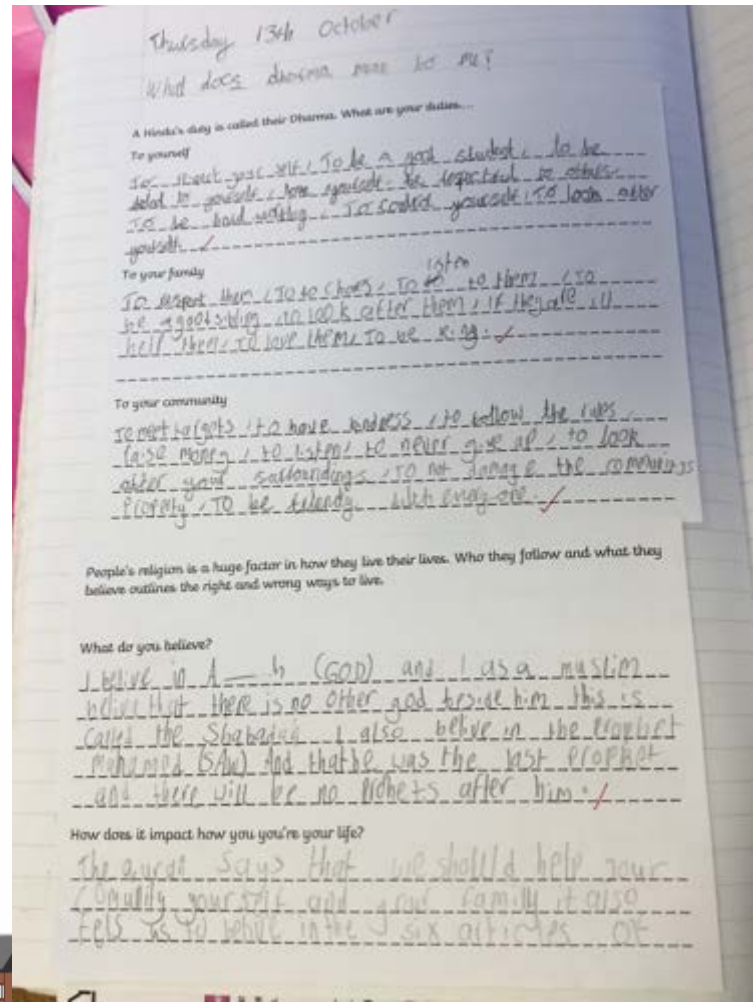
What happens if you don't follow your Dharma?

You will have bad luck, bad karma, and you will be unhappy. It is called adharma. You will also have a short life.



Going Deeper into the values within Hinduism

Children should be exposed to the teachings of other faiths and reflect on their own beliefs – seeking connections



Long Term assessment in each phase

An end of phase assessment enables teachers to identify which pupils are meeting the expectations for R.E.

This is the criteria used to assess pupils knowledge and understanding.

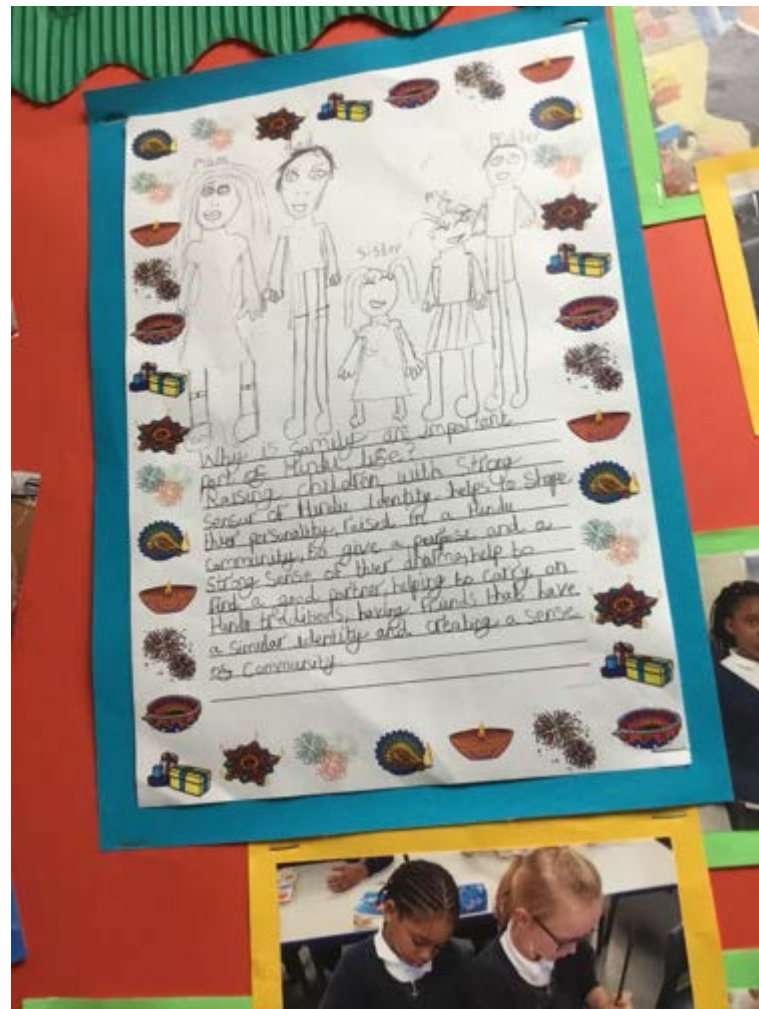
As there are 45 pupils on entry, we assess pupils over 2 years in each phase

– end of EYFS, KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2

End of LKS2 Expectations		Substantive knowledge (content and concepts)	Disciplinary knowledge (methods) and personal knowledge
Beliefs and Practices	Describe, make connections and reflect on some religious beliefs and practices studied, including how celebrations and key moments in life are treated.	Know that Raksha Bandhan celebrates siblings and has significance to Hindus at a stage of life.	Relate Raksha Bandhan to other communities and explain why the ceremony is important.
Sources of Wisdom	Show awareness, describe and interpret a range of stories, sacred writings, psalms, poems, hymns, prayers and artefacts. Develop an understanding of the impact on individual believers.	Know the story of David , Christmas and Easter using the names of characters and places, understanding the relevance of each character to the story.	Explore artefacts in Hinduism, Christianity, Sikhism and Islam , questioning their purpose and meaning to the believer.
Symbols and Action	Explain how a range of beliefs, symbolic expression and actions (verbal and non-verbal) can communicate meaning to individual followers. Describe some similarities between communities.	Know the greetings in each faith – the Lord be with you, Salam, alaikum, namaste, shalom.	Recognise forgiveness in the Easter story and explain its relevance. Explore the meaning of Equality in Sikhism and relate to its importance.
Prayer Worship and Reflection	Describe why and when worshippers connect to prayer and worship. Participate in periods of stillness and quiet thought and where appropriate express personal reflections.	Know that people go to the church, temple, gurdwara and mosque to pray and to worship and name key words involved in prayer and worship.	Explore prayer practice in Hinduism, Christianity and Islam explaining why prayer is important and how it connects humans to God.
Identity and Belonging	Show an understanding of some of the challenges individuals face when belonging to a faith community. Demonstrate how it may help them. Explore how some religious people are guided by their religious leaders.	Know the names – vicar, Curate, Imam, Pujari, Rabbi and know how they lead worship and share messages of the faith.	Reflect on the value of respect in leadership and what this looks like. Know why trust in leaders is important.
Ultimate Questions	Respond to a range of challenging 'if' and 'why' questions about making sense of the world, expressing personal reflections.	Know the creation, Passover and Easter stories, naming characters and deepening and understanding of God in these stories.	Reflect on forgiveness in the Easter story. Why are commandments and rules important in religions?
Human Responsibility and Values	Illustrate how diverse communities can live together respectfully sharing the same important values and some of responsibility.	Know that we share values of generosity, equality, duty , respect, thankfulness across faiths.	Explore how we can help others and develop courageous advocacy and a sense of duty towards others.
Justice and Fairness	Consider and discuss questions on matters that are important in the world including choices about what is right and what is wrong.	Know the words justice, equality and fairness and identify these in Christianity, Hinduism, Islamic and Sikhism traditions.	Use the word justice and ask questions about how the faiths teach what is right and what is wrong.
To know and use this vocabulary	Dharma, Salvation, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Advent, salah, Mihrab, Messiah, Guru Granth Sahib, Guru, Imam, Vicar, Hanukkah, Rabbi, Qu'ran, Salvation, altar, pulpit, equality, advent, commandment, sacrifice.		
Working Towards		Working at (overall)	Exceeding



Reflections during Diwali after the a visiting speaker talked about the importance of Hindu tradition in families.



Celebrating Diwali Together



Whole School Celebration

In 2022 each class made a vegetarian dish for display in the school hall. This food was made from traditional Indian recipes and was shared amongst the community at the end of the school day.

Govardhan Puja also known as Annakut or Annakoot (meaning a “mountain of food”), is a Hindu festival in which devotees worship Govardhan Hill and prepare and offer a large variety of vegetarian food to Krishna as a mark of gratitude.





R.E. through Art and D.T.



Visitors who enrich understanding of what it means to have a faith



The use of quality texts to introduce new language and to know story structures and characters within other faiths.



Long Term Goals

- Children develop a sense of celebration and coming together of community
- They deepen their understanding of values within the faith and hear from those who live out their faith in their daily lives
- Children develop a sense of awe and wonder, they are exposed to one another's beliefs and traditions and, as a result, discriminatory language is very rare in school
- Pupils have a good understanding of faith and are able to use 3 tier language to describe the beliefs of others.
- Pupils respect difference and the faith traditions of others.



Finally...

From the mouth of babes, words from Y6 pupils:

“Our school learns about the other cultures and faiths. It helps us to understand others”.

“It doesn’t make us uncomfortable to learn about other faiths”.

“My last school taught R.E. with worksheets and slides. This school lets you meet real people to find out more.”

“Meeting people and visits are the best way to learn about faith and it is interesting”.

