**INTERPRETATION OF PRIMARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EXPECTATIONS**

**AUTUMN FIRST HALF TERM**

**YEAR 3**

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| UNIT | EXPECTATION | OUR UNDERSTANDING | PROMPT QUESTIONS |
| 3.1  The Christian Family | **Ask and respond to questions about their own and others’ experience of family life** | Pupils are able to both respond to questions and ask questions of each other about their own and class members’ family life. They could discuss things they enjoy doing together and choose one special event or time they have spent together. They could discuss the things that don’t always go well: when they fall out with a brother or a sister and how they restore their relationship, when they are asked to do a job – e.g. tidying, but not feel like it etc. | Who is part of your family?  What do you enjoy doing with your family?  What things show you belong to your family? |
|  | **Describe different forms of family, community and the community of the local Church (diocese and parish)** | To describe means to offer a written description of the specific forms of family, from their own immediate family to their extended family. Pupils can describe the different communities they belong to: this could be geographical (neighbourhoods, places), clubs and teams and the parish and diocesan community. | What is a parish? Which parish is the school part of?  Where does the parish family meet together?  What is a diocese? |
|  | **Give examples of how you live as a member of your family and other communities you belong to** | Pupils will be able to give examples of how they live as a member of their family. This can be linked to the first expectation in this unit. They will then be able to give examples of things they do to show they belong to other communities – this will include the Church where appropriate or other faith communities. | What things show they are a family?  What do they do together?  What do you do as a member of …? |
|  | **Listen to another’s view of family life and give their own view** | Pupils will be able to listen to another pupil’s view of their family life – perhaps in a pair/share or trio – and give a view of their own family life. |  |
|  | **Know what a sacrament is and that Baptism is a sacrament. Describe how each sign is used in Baptism, (water, chrism oil, candle, white garment)** | A sacrament at this stage can be taught as an important gift from Jesus that gives us God’s grace – His help – and special gifts (E.g. Baptism gives the baptised the gift of the Holy Spirit). In order to show what a sacrament is, the WTL (new book pp. 14-15) distinguishes between ‘sign’ and ‘symbol’. The WTL uses this distinction to teach that symbols are really powerful signs, because unlike ordinary signs (e.g. road signs), symbols effect change in something – they produce the desired effect e.g. water is powerful because it really does give new life and make clean. However, the Church does not use the word symbol to describe sacraments it understands sacraments as *efficacious signs* – signs that effect a change. So you could teach Baptism by distinguishing between simple (road signs) and powerful signs (signs used in Baptism and other sacraments).  Baptism is the sacrament that makes the child a member of the Church – the Christian family. It marks the start of new life as a Christian.  To describe how each sign is used pupils will offer a description that will name the sign – (holy) water (water that has been blessed) chrism oil, candle, white garment - and give a description of how it is used. Water, for example, is named and a description of how water is used e.g. all are gathered at the *font* and the priest pours holy water over the baby’s forehead *three* times – once for each person of the Trinity, ‘I baptise you in the name of the *Father* and of the *Son* and of the *Holy Spirit*. What the signs of baptism signify (their meaning) is not required for this description. |  |
|  | **Give a reason why, at least, three signs are used in Baptism** | Pupils will say why at least three signs are used. In other words, pupils will say what effect (what does it do for the child, what changes) each of the signs has on the baptised person? | Why is …. used in Baptism?  When the water is poured over the baby’s forehead, what change is taking place?  How is putting on a white garment the same as putting on Christ? |
|  | **Ask and respond to questions about whether baptism has anything to say to them about belonging, promises and commitment by answering questions** | Pupils will respond to, and ask questions about, what Baptism teaches them about **belonging**. For example, you join and belong to a larger family than your own, called the Christian family – the Church. That makes all people your brothers and sisters! You also belong to Jesus – Jesus is the Head of the family and we are like his body. What things show you belong to the Christian family? Baptism obviously, but also things like making ‘the sign of the cross’ – this is a Christian action. You might wear something that shows you are a Christian – a necklace with a cross or crucifix. You can show you belong by going to Church to worship; by praying to Jesus as a family or on your own. By learning about Jesus and the Church.  Pupils will respond to, and ask questions about, what Baptism teaches them about **promises**. For example,  What promises do parents and godparents make at Baptism? Why do you think the parents are asked to renew their baptismal promises and asked to make promises about their child?  This will lead on to what Baptism has to say to pupils about the importance of **commitment**. For example, what sorts of things are the parents and godparents promising to do? (new TB p. 25) This could lead into talking about the importance of the help of the Holy Spirit and the courage and perseverance needed to teach by example. | What shows that you belong to the Christian family – the Church?  Why is it a good idea to make a promise when you have a baby? What do you think it means to belong to Jesus or God?  What do people who belong to Jesus or God do? |
|  | **Make a link in their work between Baptism and what it tells Christians about living a Christian life (GD)** (welcoming others, being a ‘light’ to others, making promises) | Any one idea from the following: now the baptised child is a member of the Church they can show this by the way they live, e.g. observing the commandments, especially the greatest commandment (Luke 10:27) loving God and neighbour. As they have been welcomed into the church, they should be friendly and welcome others; they have been asked to ‘live in the light’ how can they live out “this little light of mine, I’m going to let it shine”? If they make a promise, they should keep it. |  |
|  | **Why do Catholics baptise their babies and not wait until they are older? (GD)** | Parents ask the Church to baptise their child, but why? Well there could be many different reasons. Not all religious reasons! So it’s probably best to ask, why does the Church practice infant baptism? Firstly, it could be answered by a pupil as simply as ‘To show I belong to my family and the Christian family.’ With the emphasis on belonging. However, to meet this expectation, the pupil will need to say something (not all ideas from below) why it’s important to receive the gifts Baptism gives (i.e. faith, Holy Spirit) as soon as possible, rather than waiting until they are older.  The Church gives the following reasons: the Church has always practised infant baptism, "Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and *to your children*" (Acts 2:38-39).  Secondly, a parent’s request of Baptism for their child is really important, because for Catholics faith is a gift received - given by God - at Baptism (it is not something decided on by a person later on, it is always first received). It is really important to receive the gift of faith as early as possible so that growing up in a family of faith the child learns to express that faith for themselves through the example of their own family and the wider Church.  Thirdly, at Baptism the child receives the gift of the Holy Spirit. Again this is important to receive as early as possible to strengthen the child as they live out the Christian life: living by the commandments, resisting temptation etc.  Finally, Baptism washes away original and actual sin. In the case of infants, baptism washes away original sin only, because infants cannot sin. *However, teachers would not teach this truth to Year 3.* | What reasons might your parents give you if you asked them why they got you baptised as a baby?  Why is it a good idea to get baptised when you are a baby? |