**3.5** **CELEBRATING EASTER & PENTECOST**

**CONCEPTS:** Redemption, Liturgical Year

**About this unit**

This unit is designed to develop the children’s knowledge and understanding of Easter and Pentecost through the Story of Emmaus and through Acts 2: 1-13 (Pentecost). The children will reflect on the celebration of new life and on the signs and symbols of the Easter season. They will reflect on the importance of belief through the story of ‘Doubting Thomas’. They will learn about the symbols and fruits of the Holy Spirit and reflect on how the Holy Spirit helps them to live their lives.

**Where this unit fits in**

This unit builds on previous learning in Year 1 during the unit 1.5 ‘Resurrection’ and Year Two during the unit 2.5 ‘Eastertide’. It builds on work about Holy Week in the Spring Term.

**Prior learning**

It would be helpful if children have an awareness of the resurrection appearances of Jesus and of the importance of the Holy Spirit.

**Key Words**

Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday, Paschal Candle, feast, rose from the dead, Bible, Resurrection, celebrate, new life, spring, Jesus, empty tomb, appear, Emmaus, doubt, Thomas, presence, hope, peace, Holy Spirit, fruits, gifts, symbols

**Links to ‘God’s Story’ and ‘Church’s Story’**

*God’s Story 2,* pp. 80-81, 84-85

*God’s Story 3,* pp. 27, 128-29 (On the road to Emmaus)

*Church’s Story 2,* pp. 74-79

**KEY SCRIPTURE**

Luke 24: 13-35 (The Story of Emmaus)

John 20: 24-29 (Doubting Thomas)

Acts 2: 1-13 (Pentecost)

**KNOWLEDGE SEQUENCE**

• Christians believe, and celebrate, that Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday.

• The resurrection teaches Christians that death is not the end so they are able to share in the new life of Jesus: hope of eternal life.

• The story of Emmaus shows us how the sadness of Jesus’ friends changed to happiness when they saw Jesus was truly alive.

• The story of Doubting Thomas teaches Christians to trust in God even when it is difficult

• Following Jesus’ Ascension, God sent His Holy Spirit at Pentecost to help and support us.

**WTL LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

• *Explore how the Church celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus*

*• Think about how we can celebrate Jesus’ Resurrection*

• Know that God the Father raised Jesus from the dead on Easter Sunday

• Know the stories of the appearance of Jesus on the road to Emmaus and to Thomas

• *Think about what we can learn from this experience*

• Know that because Jesus rose from the dead, so too will we

• Know that Jesus returned to His Father, in heaven (Ascension)

• Know the story of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

• Understand how the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost changed the disciples

• Reflect on times when we need the power of the Holy Spirit

• Celebrate a Pentecost liturgy

**BY THE END OF THIS UNIT PUPILS ARE EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO:**

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| Retell one of the appearance stories of Jesus, ensuring it is accurate in its sequence and detail. | Ask and respond to questions about the feelings/thoughts of Jesus’ friends before and after Easter and Pentecost | Describe some religious symbols of Easter  | Make simple links between beliefs and worship giving at least two reasons for the use of the religious symbols of Easter (Paschal candle, cross) |
| Using one appearance story, say what it teaches us e.g. either Emmaus or Doubting Thomas | Make a simple link between the beliefs about Pentecost and how it can affect their behaviour, e.g. change in thoughts/emotion and action | Make a simple link between the symbols used for the Holy Spirit (fire and wind) and their meaning. | Express a preference on the Fruits of the Holy Spirit and show how they are expressed in their lives. |