**1.3 FAMILIES AND CELEBRATIONS**

**CONCEPTS:** Church

**About the unit**

This unit is designed to develop the children’s knowledge and understanding of what it means to belong to the family called the Church. There are opportunities at this point to explore the celebration of Baptism. It introduces the unit by exploring what it means to belong to a family and the school community. The unit also gives opportunities for the children to know that God is our Father in heaven and about special celebrations that take place in Church. The children will learn about the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple and that the title ‘Jesus, light of the world’ comes from this story. The revised book extends the learning about Jesus’ early life by giving an opportunity to hear and reflect on the story of the ‘Finding in the Temple’.

**Where the unit fits in**

This unit builds on previous learning in the Foundation Stage from F2 ‘God’s Family’ and F6 ‘Church’.

**Prior learning**

It is helpful if the children have an understanding of what makes a celebration and some prior knowledge of a church building and celebrations in church.

**Key words**

Church, belong, baptism, sign, symbol, water, oil, white garment, light, candle, god parents, priest, Father, heaven, Jesus, light of the world, Temple, Simeon, Anna, Sunday.

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

*God’s Story 1*, pp. 19-20, 22-23

*God’s Story 2*, p. 62

*Church’s Story 1*, pp. 4-11, 12-13, 14-15, 18-19, 24-29

**KEY SCRIPTURE**

Luke 2: 22-38 (Jesus is presented in the Temple)

**KNOWLEDGE SEQUENCE**

• Belonging to a family is important

• The Bible tells stories about Jesus’ early life to show that Jesus loved God, his Father

• A person becomes a member of God’s family through Baptism

• God’s family gather together to worship in a church

**WTL LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

• Reflect on what it means to be a member of a family

• Understand what it means to belong to God’s family

• Know that God is our Father in heaven and think about why it is important

• Hear how Jesus’ family took him to the Temple and think about why this was a special occasion

• *Know that Jesus belonged to a family*

• *Think of things he may have done with his family*

• *Know about the loss and finding of Jesus*

• *Reflect on the feelings of Mary and Joseph when Jesus was lost and then found*.

• *Begin to understand what it means to belong to our Church family*

• Know about some of the celebrations in a church and why we celebrate these occasions

• *Know that we become a member of the Church by receiving the Sacrament of Baptism*

*• Talk about what happens when a baby is baptised*

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Recognise a story of Jesus’ early life, and some of its details, and that it is from the Bible | Begin to retell (sequence), in any form, the story of the Presentation (and the Finding in the Temple – new book) | Say what the story of the Presentation tells us about Jesus |
| Suggest an answer to questions like, ‘Why is my family important?’ ‘Why is it good to belong?’ | Recognise that Baptism is a sign of belonging to God’s family | Talk about their feelings and experiences of family life, family celebrations including those in church |
| Name at least two signs used in Baptism | Say how, at least, two signs of Baptism are used | Use religious words like, God, Church, baptism, sign, symbol, water, oil, white garment, light, candle, god parents, priest, Father, heaven, Jesus, light of the world, Temple, Simeon, Anna, Sunday |
| Ask and respond to questions about the feelings of Anna, Simeon, Mary and Joseph |