

Spring 1 -

Lostwithiel Primary School

Year 5

Unit 2.3 - Why do Christians believe Jesus was the Messiah? (Incarnation)

RE Knowledge Organiser

Prior Learning:

- Unit 1.3 - Why does Christmas matter to Christians? Unit L2.2 - What is it like for someone to follow God? L2.4 - What kind of world did Jesus want?

Key RE learning Outcomes for this unit:

- Explain the place of Incarnation and Messiah within the 'big story' of the Bible
- Identify Gospel and prophecy texts, using technical terms
- Explain connections between biblical texts, Incarnation and Messiah, using theological terms
- Show how Christians put their beliefs about Jesus' Incarnation into practice in different ways in celebrating Christmas
- Comment on how the idea that Jesus is the Messiah makes sense in the wider story of the Bible
- Weigh up how far the idea of Jesus as the 'Messiah' - a Saviour from God - is important in the world today and, if it is true, what difference that might make in people's lives, giving good reasons for their answers.

Key RE Vocabulary -

General Terms and Cross Curricular Vocabulary

Incarnation	A person who embodies in the flesh a deity, spirit, or quality.	Celebrate	To honour or praise publicly. To acknowledge (a significant or happy day or event) with a social gathering or enjoyable activity.
Saviour	A person who saves someone or something from danger or difficulty.		
Messiah	The promised deliverer of the Jewish nation prophesied in the Hebrew Bible. Jesus regarded by Christians as the Messiah of the Hebrew prophecies and the saviour of humankind.	Peace	Freedom from disturbance; tranquillity.
Gospel	The teaching or revelation of Christ. The record of Christ's life and teaching in the first four books of the New Testament.		

Areas of Reflection

Cross Curricular Links

- Discuss and explain 'incarnation' - Christian belief in Jesus as God 'in the flesh', one of the three persons of the Trinity - Jesus comes to heal the effect of sin and 'the Fall'. What kind of person is needed when people need help? (if they are being bullied, in an accident, if one country is under attack from another one). Discuss the qualities someone might need to 'save' the situation.
- Outline the situation of the People of God - their land occupied by enemy forces for over 500 years, hopeful that God would send them a saviour - the hoped-for 'Messiah'. List qualities such a Saviour would need. Was Jesus the hoped-for Messiah? Using Old Testament texts -Jewish expectation: **Isaiah7:14; Isaiah9:6-7; Isaiah11:1-5; Micah5:2**. Summarise expectations 'Wanted!' poster for Messiah.
- Read Matthew 1:18-24, 2:1-12 - texts from a Gospel. Look for evidence in Matthew's account that he saw Jesus as the Messiah - any clues that Jesus meets the expectations from the Isaiah and Micah texts? Interview some witnesses - get Mary, Joseph, Herod, some wise men into the hot-seat and question them. Write up final news article, claiming the Messiah has arrived and it is Jesus, presenting evidence. (While Christians believe Jesus was the promised Messiah, most Jewish people were not convinced at the time, and Jews today still don't think he was.)
- CHRISTMAS: Gather ideas associated with Christmas. How many of them are to do with Christianity and Jesus? Investigate some Christian advertising campaigns to put across the 'true meaning' of Christmas as being about God sending a 'Saviour'. What message are they putting across? How do they show the belief that Jesus was the Saviour, to heal the division between people and God / between people? Explore how Christians celebrate Christmas in ways that reflect the belief in a saviour bringing peace with God and good news for all people (*helping at homeless shelters*)

- Personal celebrations - own experiences at Christmas
- English - Christmas poetry
- English - wanted poster / analysing advertisements

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss: Why do Christians believe Jesus was the Messiah? Why do Christians believe the world needs a 'Saviour'? What difference would it make if everyone believed Jesus is the Saviour? Explore the non-religious response that humans need to sort the world out by themselves: how might humans heal division and bring peace? Reflect on ways in which we might make a difference. | |
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Linked documents: [Class Overview](#), [RE Whole School Progression document](#) and [Class Medium Term Planning/ Cornwall Agreed Syllabus](#)