

## DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

### TERM 3/YEAR 2 / WEEK 1 - EPIPHANY

The focus for the week is that of Epiphany, in particular the visit of the Magi (also referred to as Wise Men and Kings) to the infant Jesus. The theme is developed by looking outwards to the wider world from which the Magi travelled to worship Jesus.

SEAL link – New beginnings

Values link – Reverence (they knelt down and worshipped Jesus)

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p>Show images of stars and constellations</p> <p>Music We Three Kings Riding Across the Desert</p> <p>Images of modern day Persia (Iran)</p>	<p><b>THE WISE MEN (MAGI) VISIT JESUS (whole school)</b> Matthew 2 1-12 Visual aids might include stars, crowns, the gifts of the Wise Men – use these as the focus on the worship table and perhaps on a display for the week in a common area of the school as a reminder of Epiphany. Ask - how do we find our way to different places, what do we use? You might use talk partners for this. Draw together ideas. Explain that a special star appeared when Jesus was born and this was the way that the Wise Men found Jesus. Tell the story of the visit of the Wise Men visually (eg a selection of the images from 'The Brick Testament' or a suitable selection of paintings of the Nativity). What might we do if we want to find our way to Jesus? We can read the Bible and get to know more about Jesus and we can pray. The Wise Men showed that they thought that Jesus was special by bringing gifts – we can show that Jesus is special by following his example.</p>	<p>What can I give him, poor as I am? if I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart. (final verse of 'In the Bleak Midwinter by Christina Rossetti)</p>	<p>May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ shine in our hearts and fill our lives with his joy and peace. <b>Amen.</b></p>
	<p><b>THE WISE MEN (MAGI) VISIT JESUS (whole school)</b> Matthew 2 1-12 Image of a map of the world to show the journey the wise men took from Persia to Jerusalem (eg by searching using 'journey of the magi'). Show images of the two countries (Persia and Israel) and explain how long the journey was and how long it would have taken (over 1000 miles, between 1 and 2 years). They must have believed in the importance and significance of the person for whom the star has appeared. Discuss - what countries in the world do we link with as a school? How do we support them? Talk about your chosen country. Maybe you support them through Christian Aid or Tear Fund. If you do not have a direct link, consider discussing a country that is currently in great need eg Syria. Perhaps use talk partners discuss how the school can help eg.</p>		

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<p>Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe. <b>From the rising of the sun to its setting your name is proclaimed in all the world.</b></p>	<p>fund raising etc Alternatively invite pupil worship leaders to prepare and talk about how we can support others in different parts of the world, or about a particular situation which is in crisis at this time.</p>	<p>Use the images of Nativity scenes from other parts of the world to pray for those countries. You could light candles as you do this. Lord Jesus, be with the people of ..... today with your loving presence Lord in your mercy <b>Hear our prayer</b></p> <p>See previous column for prayer ideas</p>	<p>May the name of the Lord be great among the nations <b>From the rising of the sun to its setting, now and for evermore AMEN</b></p>
	<p><b>REFLECTING ON THE WIDER WORLD</b> Matthew 2 1-12 Use images from around the world to show that the Magi are presented in particular ways to different cultures around the world. Your pupil worship leaders could do some research and preparation for you. Use search engines to find distinctive images eg African Magi, Nativity images in Indian art etc. Art from Peru is also very distinctive. Talk about how these images are the same but also different from those we see around us at Christmas time. What might this show us about how we and others understand Jesus? The story of the Magi shows that, from the very beginning, Jesus was sent to all the nations and peoples of the world, who are now able to understand and worship him within their own context but also with all their brothers and sisters throughout the world.</p>		
	<p><b>THE WISE MEN (MAGI) VISIT JESUS (class or Key Stage)</b> Matthew 2 1-12 Re-visit the story in an appropriate version. Focus on the gifts brought to Jesus. For older pupils, use them to talk and pray about: Golden times in the past year and in the year ahead (Gold for kingship) People who need our prayers because life is sad or difficult (Myrrh for suffering) How people help us to come nearer to Jesus and thank God for them (Frankincense for worship) You could use different coloured post-its and make a special 'crown-shaped' display in the classroom for pupils' thoughts and prayers. For younger pupils, the focus could be on Jesus as King – they could add a small crown shape and say 'thank you' to Jesus for being their king.</p>		