

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION RECONCILIATION – INTER-RELATING

***Note to teachers/parents and carers.**

This work comes from the Come and See Religious Education programme which is taught in all Catholic primary schools in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. We have given a general guide to the learning opportunities that children may have come across under normal timetabling in school. We have suggested and selected a small amount of the programme. The activities aim to keep Religious Education practical and fun. They are in Year groups however, there is no harm in completing other year group work as this will help children to remember and strengthen their learning.

The first part of learning is called – **EXPLORE**. This shares your child's everyday experiences and helps them to see how the Catholic faith is lived in their everyday lives. The second part, called – **REVEAL** shares bible stories that links to their everyday life.

****Please note that the activities have been adapted as far as possible to adhere to social distancing guidelines. If completing the activities in school, please follow your school's Safeguarding policy.***

****Teachers may wish to adapt the following activities to suit the well-being of the children whether at home or in their care. The Reconciliation topic is an opportunity for schools to explore feelings that are/may be affecting them at this time.***

EXPLORE: Building Bridges of Friendship

Have you ever thought about how bridges are made or constructed?



A bridge needs to be built from both sides. A bridge must be strong enough for people to walk on. Bridges span or stretch across things. A bridge needs to be cared for and looked after otherwise it will just fall down. It needs to have very strong foundations and be anchored to the ground.

Read the story - A bridge of friendship

When I started school, I met Charlotte. She was standing by a table looking shy. I said, “Hello I’m Poppy!” and she said, “Hello!”. We were friends from then on. We sat at the same table to do our work. We both liked ICT best in school and we worked on it together. Charlotte is good at art, so she helped me, I’m good at science so I helped her. We shared jokes and laughed together. We were also friends with Lucy and Will. I liked Charlotte, but then things changed. Charlotte went and sat by Emily one day to share her new book. I thought she would come back and sit by me, but she didn’t. At playtime, she stayed with Emily and I played with Lucy and Will. I wondered how I could build a bridge of friendship to Charlotte.

A friendship is like a bridge between people - it needs to be strengthened, maintained or repaired.

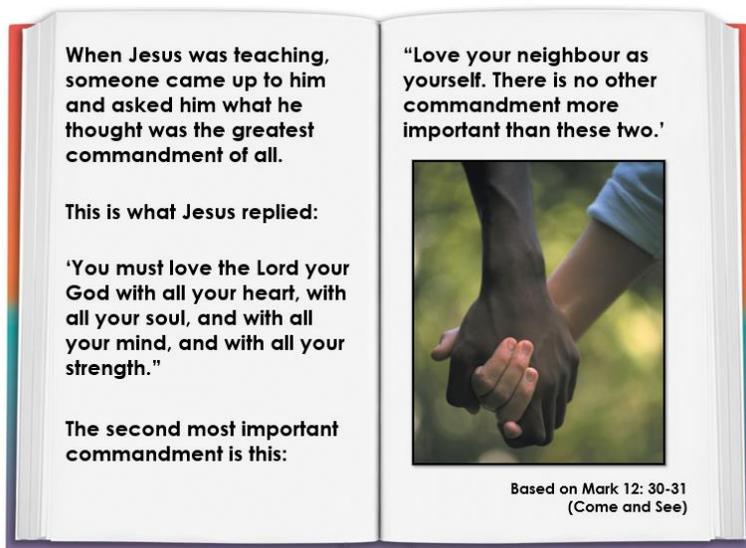
Choose Activities

- Write an ending to the story, showing how Poppy could build a bridge of friendship to Charlotte and why they acted like that.
- Build a bridge of words or pictures about what makes friendship strong. Start at opposite sides and meet in the middle.
- Using the pictures to help you; build a suspension bridge which can span at least half a metre and be strong enough to hold a few toys.

REVEAL: The importance of admitting wrong, and being reconciled with God and one another

People get lost when they deliberately do something wrong, hurting others, themselves or the world they live in. That is what is called 'sin'. It is anything deliberately chosen – to think, say or do. It is also anything you choose to do or not to do that spoils or breaks the friendship with God and with other people. Sin is anything which breaks bridges of love.

Share this bible reading:



Christians try to build bridges towards one another every day. They 'examine their consciences' to see how they have kept these two commandments. Our conscience is like a voice or feeling inside us. This is the Holy Spirit helping us to respond to God. If we pay attention to the Holy Spirit, it will help us to know if something is good or bad.

It is good to think every evening, before you go to bed, about how you have built bridges of love and friendship or, perhaps, broken them through sin. We remember if we have done something that hurt someone else or if someone else has hurt us. We can thank God for all the good and say sorry for the bad and know that God, like the good shepherd, cares about us and loves us. We also must try to forgive those who have hurt us.



Choose an activity:

- God's law of love can be broken by thinking, saying, or doing anything that spoils or breaks friendship with God or with other people. It is also choosing not to do something which again results in breaking friendship with God and other people. Make a friendship or sorry bracelet and build a bridge of love and wear it to remind yourself to say sorry and keep a friendship or to show that you love and forgive them.
- Write a short story/account to illustrate one of these occasions and how a bridge might be rebuilt.