

AHMAT – RE and Art Week

Why Teach RE?

Religious Education (RE) helps children explore big questions about life, like why we are here and what makes life meaningful. It's a chance to think about what is important, understand different beliefs, and learn how people find purpose and value in the world. RE also introduces children to the stories, traditions, and ideas from major religions and other ways of thinking, helping them understand and respect the diversity of beliefs in our world.

Why Teach Art?

Art helps children improve their coordination, movement, and fine motor skills. It sparks their curiosity by encouraging them to look closely at the world around them. Through art, children get to explore different materials and learn how to use them in creative ways. It inspires and challenges them to experiment and try out new ideas, building their confidence and skills. Children also create their own original artworks, drawing inspiration from different artists, cultures, and the world around them, while expressing their thoughts and experiences.

Godly Play:

Every class started the day with Godly play. The children thoroughly enjoyed the Godly Play session on creation, which brought the story to life in an interactive and reflective way. Godly Play is a method of storytelling that uses simple materials and open-ended questions to help children explore and reflect on Bible stories. Through carefully crafted visuals and hands-on activities, the children engaged deeply with the creation story, connecting with its themes in a meaningful and imaginative way. The reflective discussions that followed allowed them to express their thoughts and wonder about God's work, leaving a lasting impression of the beauty and significance of creation.

Theme: God's Creation of the World

The story of God creating the world in seven days shows the beauty, order, and purpose in everything around us. From the light and darkness to the land, sea, plants, animals, and people, each part of creation reflects God's care and creativity. On the seventh day, God rested, reminding us of the importance of pausing to appreciate the wonder of His work.

This theme invites children to explore the magnificence of God's creation and consider how everything in the world is interconnected. Through scripture, art, and thoughtful discussions, children can reflect on how they can care for and respect the world God has made. It's an opportunity to be inspired by the beauty and purpose in all parts of creation, from the smallest flower to the vastness of the sky.

The Intent for the week:

Using the Spirited Arts competition, we planned this year's theme God's Creation. To Develop children's understanding of different world faith's beliefs about how God created the world in 7 days.

To showcase learning through:

- RE Writing
- Artwork (class collages)



Overview of RE activities:

Our whole school came together to explore the story of creation as told in the Bible. Each year group focused on one of the seven days of creation, reflecting on God's amazing work as described in Genesis. From the separation of light and darkness to the creation of the sky, land, plants, animals, and humans, each group created a unique piece of art to represent their day. These artworks were then brought together to form a stunning collective display, celebrating the beauty and order of God's creation and reminding us of our role as stewards of His world.

EYFS	Day 1: Light and Darkness <i>Theme:</i> God creates light, separating it from darkness. <i>Verse:</i> "And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." (Genesis 1:3)
Year 1	Day 2: Sky and Waters <i>Theme:</i> God forms the sky, dividing the waters above from the waters below. <i>Verse:</i> "And God said, 'Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.'" (Genesis 1:6)
Year 2	Day 3: Land, Seas, and Vegetation <i>Theme:</i> God gathers the waters to reveal dry land and creates plants and trees. <i>Verse:</i> "Then God said, 'Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees.'" (Genesis 1:11)
Year 3	Day 4: Sun, Moon, and Stars <i>Theme:</i> God places the lights in the sky to govern day and night and mark time. <i>Verse:</i> "God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night." (Genesis 1:16)
Year 4	Day 5: Birds and Sea Creatures <i>Theme:</i> God fills the waters with creatures and the skies with birds. <i>Verse:</i> "So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing that moves." (Genesis 1:21)
Year 5	Day 6: Animals and Humans <i>Theme:</i> God creates land animals and makes humans in His image. <i>Verse:</i> "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them." (Genesis 1:27)
Year 6	Day 7: Rest <i>Theme:</i> God rests, blessing and making the seventh day holy. <i>Verse:</i> "Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested." (Genesis 2:3)

Overview of Art activities:

EYFS	Day 1: Light and Darkness <i>Theme:</i> God creates light, separating it from darkness. <i>Art Process:</i> Foundation pupils used bubble wrap, tinfoil, colourful paint, simple tearing and sticking techniques with a black background to emphasise light and dark.
Year 1	Day 2: Sky and Waters <i>Theme:</i> God forms the sky, dividing the waters above from the waters below. <i>Art Process:</i> Year 1 pupils used paint and sponges to blend blues and whites, creating soft clouds and vibrant skies above textured water, Then using a range of fabrics and tissue paper to create the layered waves.
Year 2	Day 3: Land, Seas, and Vegetation <i>Theme:</i> God gathers the waters to reveal dry land and creates plants and trees. <i>Art Process:</i> Year 2 pupils layered fabrics and textured papers for land, adding details with oil pastels, cardboards and more fabrics to create plants and trees
Year 3	Day 4: Sun, Moon, and Stars <i>Theme:</i> God places the lights in the sky to govern day and night and mark time. <i>Art Process:</i> Year 3 pupils used metallic paints, sequins, hemispheres, fabrics and papers to create shimmering stars, a glowing sun, planets and a serene moon against a painted gradient background.
Year 4	Day 5: Birds and Sea Creatures <i>Theme:</i> God fills the waters with creatures and the skies with birds. <i>Art Process:</i> Year 4 pupils created birds and sea creatures using the skill of origami with coloured paper, paints, and textured pastels. The background was created using different blues.
Year 5	Day 6: Animals and Humans <i>Theme:</i> God creates land animals and makes humans in His image. <i>Art Process:</i> Year 5 pupils worked with fabric and collage materials to build layered and detailed animals, adding human figures with drawn and painted elements to represent humanity.
Year 6	Day 7: Rest <i>Theme:</i> God rests, blessing and making the seventh day holy. <i>Art Process:</i> Year 6 pupils created a peaceful scene with soft pastels and blended paints, with God reflecting on everything that he has made, representing rest and reflection with a serene landscape.

Impact Statement:

RE

Learning about the creation story has had a profound impact on the children, sparking curiosity and deep reflection. They developed a greater understanding of how the story emphasizes the beauty and purpose of all creation, fostering an appreciation for their role in caring for the world around them. Many children made meaningful connections between the creation story and scriptures, linking their learning to real-world responsibilities such as stewardship and care for the environment. It was heartening to see children from diverse faiths sharing their beliefs, engaging in thoughtful discussions, and finding common values. The involvement of visitors further enriched the experience, as they provided valuable insights and answered the children's thought-provoking questions.

Art

Across the trust, children enjoyed the collective and challenging art projects they were assigned. The focused approach enabled the class to work together on a single piece of art with a simple theme based on their assigned day of creation. This allowed each child to concentrate on and refine their specific role in the artwork, contributing to the overall masterpiece. The children have been thrilled to see their collaborative artwork displayed alongside those of other year groups, forming a stunning collective representation of the creation story. They have eagerly pointed out the elements they contributed and taken immense pride in their roles. The excitement to share their creations has been palpable, with children enthusiastically engaging anyone who passes by the display to showcase their work.

EYFS

God made light come
and then he made the
star and the moon
then he made land
and put people on it
then he rested. The
best part was making
our lights.

God had a
rest.
He did lots
of work.

I liked
decorating the
lanterns. I
like the story
when his made
the land and
he put people
on it.



KS1

We learnt that
God made the
world in 7 days.
He started with
the space and
then filled it
later.

-Year 2 student

I really
enjoyed
helping to
make the
picture with
my friends.

-Year 1 student

I liked the story
at the beginning
of the day
because it
showed me
everything God
had made.

-Year 1 student



LKS2

I found RE and Art day really fun because I got to make the sun with my friend which was good teamwork.

-Year 4 student

We learnt about how God made the world. We learnt that there was more and more that God wanted to make.

-Year 3 student

We learnt about the days created, and we focused on the days the planets were made.

-Year 3 student



UKS2

"I liked how we all worked together, and each class got to do their own part. I learned the order of the days of creation—it helped me see how important each thing is. The story at the start was fun, and we could join in. It made learning the stages easier!"

-Year 6 student

My favourite part was teaching myself how to make a giraffe for our collective art piece. I learnt that lots of new art skills that look good.

-Year 5 student

