Pupil Voice: RE
12th April 2024

Present - Bonnie, Grace, Max, Jess, Anna, Eleanor, James, Niamh, Finn, Madeleine, Hugh, Iris, Freddie

What does RE stand for?

When asked this question, 7 children were able to answer. 6 could not. They all knew what RE was about religion.

Why is RE important?

Jess: "It is important because we learn how different people worship. It helps us to understand each other."
Bonnie: "We might need to know about other religions so that if we go somewhere, we can understand different people."
Anna: "Important because it's expanding your mind. If you learn about all different religions, you can make a choice about what you would want to be."
Grace: "It is important because when you go to a new school or place, you can understand people better. For example, if someone was wearing a hijab, you would understand more about them and their religion."
Finn: "I have seen a Jewish person wearing a kippah in London, and I understood why."
Hugh: "RE is important because we need to remember Christ."
Niamh: "So we can learn about Jesus's life."
Eleanor: "It is important because we are Christians."
Madeleine: "We can learn things when we study other subjects."

What do you think of RE? Do you enjoy it?

Jess: "I like learning about how Christians worship God and also about other religions."
Harriet: "I like it because you get to know what other people believe in."
Anna: "I like RE, but I prefer learning about other religions more as it is often new learning."
Grace: "Yes, because we learn about RE in all different areas: in the classroom, at church, in worship, and through our lives."
Freddie: "Yes, we learn loads of stuff about God and Jesus."
Iris: "Yes, because we get to learn about Jesus."
Bonnie: "I like learning new things."
Niamh: "I think RE is interesting."
James: "It is good but harder than other subjects as it requires lots of thinking and writing compared with subjects like PE."
Finn: I like it because you can ask lots of questions and my mum says I am very questionable"

Do you take part in visits or have visitors?

Harriet: "Once we had a visitor who was Jewish come to our school."
Finn: "We had a visit from a Muslim."
Jess: "We had Julie come in to lead worship."
Max: "I like it when we have visitors because we get the perspective of someone in that religion. Interfaith trips are really good—getting understanding from someone within the faith."
Hugh: "I really like when people come into my class. It is good to learn from others. I was surprised that Mrs. Smith had the same religion as us because she is from a different country."
Niamh: "We have had different visitors come in to do assemblies."
Finn: "I'm excited about us going to church next Thursday. I wonder what we will learn about at Leominster church, what they do there, and how it is different from Kingsland church."

Class 5
Why do some people believe in God while others do not?
Grace: "If you live closer to a church and your relatives are Christian, it may be passed down to you. Also, a lot of people learn about it at school."
Jess: "It depends on whether you believe there is a person out there who created the world, or if you believe it's a scientific thing"
Max: "Honestly, I'm not sure."
Anna: "I think sometimes people might turn to the Bible to help them answer that."
What is incarnation?
Grace: "Incarnation is when God came down to earth in the form of Jesus."
Jess: "God came down because he wanted to make the world a better place and forgive our sins.
Why do Hindus want to be good?
Grace: “In Hinduism, there's a belief in karma, like when we played snakes and ladders."
Jess: "We were learning about this through a story, about a man in a well. He was trapped in a jungle and had to go through temptations, etc."
What is salvation?
The children didn’t know this.

Class 4

What is the Trinity?

Eleanor: "The Trinity is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit."

James: "It's never-ending—I can draw it."

Niamh: "Jesus is the Son of God, and God is the Father."

What is incarnation?

James: It is when Jesus came into the world

What can you tell me about Hinduism?

Niamh: "In Hinduism, there are more than one God."

Eleanor: "They are all in charge of different things."

What is Salvation?

The children didn't know this.

Class 3

What can you tell me about the Creation story?

Madeleine: "In the Creation story, God began by creating light and darkness. Then, He created water, followed by the sea and sky, and finally, the land."

Finn: "The Creation story starts with God creating the land, then adding the sea, trees, animals, houses, and finally, people, after which God rested."

Hugh: "I remember the ending of the Creation story, where God looked upon the world and said it was good."

How do festivals and family life show what matters to Jewish people?

Madeleine: "We learned about a Jewish festival from visitors who came in and laid things out on a table. There was Jewish bread called matzah."

Finn: "We had a worksheet and had to label what was on the table."

Hugh: "There was all sorts of food—lots of different things in sections of the plate, including an egg, wine, honey, apples, and nuts."

What can you tell me about Good Friday?

Hugh: "Good Friday is the day Jesus died, and everyone was sad."

Madeleine: "Lent is observed before Good Friday, where they fast."

Class 2

What do Christians believe God is like?

Iris: "Big and good."
Harriet: "He is the son of the world."
Iris: "He is the light."

Why is Christmas important?

Harriet: "Christmas is important because Jesus was born."
Freddie: "It's important because we spend time with special people."
Harriet: "Christmas is like the Nativity, telling the story of how Jesus was born."

Why is Easter special?

Freddie- “Easter is special because Jesus died on the cross for us."
Hugh: "He rose from the dead. We didn't want him to die completely because then the world wouldn’t be a nice place; there would be rubbish and everywhere would get polluted." (Huw answered this question as was waiting to be taken out to PE.
Iris: "Easter is special because it is God forgiving us for the bad things we do."

How can we improve RE at Kingsland?

“We could learn more about different religions and invite more visitors because I think it's more fun to have visitors who can actually tell us about their religions—how they pray, and all other things."- Huw