HOW THE RESURRECTION CHANGED THE LIVES OF JESUS’ FOLLOWERS

This is an opportunity to make sure that there is an understanding that resurrection lies at the heart of Christian belief. There are a number of resurrection appearances which bring about a change in those who are a part of them. A mime is suggested for each of the key characters in the episode (courtesy of ‘Barnabas in Churches’) – you could dress up the characters and have them arrive in time for your act of worship – but they cannot speak only mime what they are experiencing to stimulate questions with pupils. Use an appropriate Bible version to give the accounts of Jesus’ resurrection appearances as you go through the week. There are also some links to works of art to use as a visual stimulus.

**SEAL link- New Beginnings**  
**Values link- Trust**

### GATHER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.</th>
<th>Alleluia.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>He has defeated the powers of death.</td>
<td>Alleluia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing.</td>
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### ENGAGE

| **JESUS APPEARS TO MARY MAGDALENE (whole school)**  
John 20 v 1-18  
**Mime for Mary** referring to the early morning walk to the tomb and then the meeting with the ‘gardener.’  
A sad face for a while and then crying with head in hands.  
Pause  
Turn the face and then look up with shock and amazement  
Mary is distressed to find the tomb empty but she is full of joy when she meets the risen Jesus. Also this provides an introduction to the theme of this term – a great change came over Mary when she saw Jesus. What makes you really joyful? |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| **JESUS APPEARS TO HIS DISCIPLES (whole school)**  
John 20 v 19-23  
**Mime for James** referring to James or any of the other disciples in the upper room that first Easter evening  
Eat a meal slowly while you also keep looking around with a worried and frightened expression. |

### RESPOND

| Use images of these episodes  
eg  
http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/titian-noli-me-tangere (Mary Magdalene)  
http://www.goodsalt.com/search/jesus_appears_to_his_disciples.html (various)  
or other similar images |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|

### SEND

| He is not here. He is risen.  
Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
<table>
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<tr>
<td>Listen to joyful Easter hymns and songs to take time to reflect on the significance of the resurrection</td>
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</table>
Alleluia. He has the words of eternal life. 
Alleluia.

Pause.
Suddenly show shock and then great joy.
This is a good example of change in attitude and outlook. The disciples were terrified that they would be arrested and punished for being followers of Jesus. But they were filled with joy at seeing Jesus. Also Jesus gave them his peace and sent them out – this would have given them confidence after their fear. How important is peace in your life?

**JESUS APPEARS TO THOMAS (whole school)**
John 20 v 24-29
Mime for Thomas - referring to his disbelief and wanting visual proof that Jesus was alive and to the encounter with Jesus one week later
Shake head angrily and then point to each wrist and to one side of your body.
Pause
Open eyes wide in shock and point to three wounds you can ‘see’ in front of you and then fall to your knees.
This is the episode in which Thomas’ doubt changes to faith and belief. There are lots of ways to demonstrate seeing and believing (or not believing) your eyes - a popular one is eating a daffodil - would someone believe you if you told them that you saw the HT/a teacher eat a daffodil in worship this morning? Probably not, because they did not see it but you did……… . Is it easy or difficult to have faith?

**JESUS ON THE SEASHORE (class or key stage)**
John 21 v 1-13
Mime for John - referring to the fishing expedition on Lake Galilee, seeing the stranger (Jesus) on the shore who advises them where to fish for a catch
Row a boat and then throw a net overboard on your left.
Pause.
Now throw the net onto your right and start pulling in a heavy weight.
Shade eyes and look into the distance and point to something, with a big smile.

Lord our God, we thank and praise you for the greatness of your love, shown to us in Jesus Christ, who was willing to die for us, to bring us into your family, and to bless us with the life that lasts for ever. We thank you for the new life we celebrate at Easter; help us to keep growing in the life that never comes to an end. In Jesus’ Name.

AMEN

Time for joy and time for giving
Time for remembering
Love while living.
Take this message Easter Day
Show kindness, care
At home and play.

We are raised to new life with Christ.
Let us go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

May the loving power of God, which raised Jesus to new life, strengthen us in hope, enrich us with...
Lots of events in Jesus’ life happen by the sea of Galilee. Jesus appears but the disciples do not know it is him – they are out from the shore fishing on their boat. On Jesus’ advice they cast their net and make a catch then eat with Jesus on the shore. This is another example of the disciples missing Jesus, feeling sad and unsure, and then changing - being glad that he was with them again and that any doubt could be addressed.

What is it like having the surprise of seeing someone very special when it was unexpected, to see someone whom you have missed and needed?  

| Lots of events in Jesus’ life happen by the sea of Galilee. Jesus appears but the disciples do not know it is him – they are out from the shore fishing on their boat. On Jesus’ advice they cast their net and make a catch then eat with Jesus on the shore. This is another example of the disciples missing Jesus, feeling sad and unsure, and then changing - being glad that he was with them again and that any doubt could be addressed. What is it like having the surprise of seeing someone very special when it was unexpected, to see someone whom you have missed and needed? | It's in our very acts of giving Easter's joy Makes life worth living. Children round the globe now hear Keep Easter In your heart all year. | his love, and fill us with joy in the faith, today and for evermore |