TERM 5 /YEAR 3 /WEEK 1 – Responding to Hope

It is important that the Resurrection is revisited even though Easter Sunday will have taken place during the holidays. Schools may also find it useful to quickly recap the events of Holy Week before talking about the resurrection.

SEAL link – New Beginnings  
Values link - Hope

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<th>GATHER</th>
<th>ENGAGE</th>
<th>RESPOND</th>
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| Christ is risen  
He is risen indeed  
Alleluia | The Resurrection (whole school)  
Luke 24 v 1-12  
Luke talks about how Mary and the women with her were initially puzzled and frightened. Through their grief, they had forgotten that Jesus had already told them that he would rise again, until they were reminded by the angels. Ask a member of staff to ‘hot seat’ as Mary and encourage the pupils to ask her how she is feeling and what her hopes are.  
End with the reminder that the resurrection is a symbol of hope through God’s love, and helps us to remember that love triumphs over adversity, good triumphs over evil. | Invite pupils to look at images of the empty tomb. Ask them to think quietly about how they would have felt if they had been there. What would they be hoping? | ‘We go into our school to walk in God’s light, to rejoice in God’s love and to reflect God’s glory’ (Flippin’ Praise) |
| OR | The Lord be with you  
And also with you | Faith, hope and love (whole school)  
Corinthians 13.13  
Remind the pupils that the resurrection is a symbol of hope through God’s love for us. The apostle Paul (who changed his name from Saul) started a church a Corinth which was a very important city in Greece at that time. In the New Testament, we can read Paul’s letters to the Corinthians, in which he explains the resurrection. He also wrote about ‘hope’ by explaining that the greatest gifts from the Holy Spirit are faith, hope and love. Christian Hope is more than just a simple wishful thinking. We can combine it with our other Christian values to make hope become a reality.  
**Resources. A large paper bag, strips of card, pens.**  
Explain that what we have is a bag of hope – but demonstrate that it can be easily crushed - ask pupils to write on the cards the values we can develop to help our hopes to be realised. (as the cards are added the bag is less easily crushed) | Look at images of situations in which people have brought hope – it can range from fireman rescuing a cat to a water pipe in a third world country. Ask the pupils to think about the other values which have helped the hope to be realised. |
**Hope in the world (whole school)**

*Matthew 28 v 16-20*

In Matthew’s Gospel, we learn of how Christ appears to his disciples after the resurrection and commands the disciples to spread God’s message to the world. Many Christians today are modern day disciples living out God’s message by bringing hope to many through their actions. Use the primary teaching resource ‘Dreaming of a better world’ from Christian Aid, to share examples of hopes and dreams which have been realised.


**Suggested prayer.**

Dear God

We thank you for the gift of hope brought to us through the resurrection. We thank you for the real hope which is brought by Christians around the world, to those in need. Help us to have faith in our own hopes and dreams.

**Amen**

**Our Hopes (key stage or class)**

*Proverbs 23.18*

Hope is the belief in something certain that we cannot see. For Christians, the story of resurrection emphasises the belief that good will triumph, because God will not fail us even though things seem impossible.

What are the pupils’ hopes for the future? Ask them to discuss with a partner, a mini hope, a medium hope and a big hope. ie: one for them, one for someone else and one for a large group of people - maybe someone they don’t personally know. In class, ask the pupils to write these down and place in a hope bag or display on the wall.

**Suggested praise:**

God’s not dead
Rejoice in the Lord Always
This is the Day (Junior Praise)