



Religious Education

Year: 5/6

Teacher: Mr Fannan

Week Beginning: 18th May 2020

Our RE topic for this half term focuses on Pentecost and how we can show if we have an attitude of service by the way we live our lives, the way we treat others, and by our words and actions. The feast of Pentecost is a celebration of the gift of God's Spirit and its transforming power.

This week we will be thinking about the story of Pentecost. Please read the following passage carefully.

'When the harvest was being gathered in, on the feast of the first fruits, the friends of Jesus were not among the holiday crowds celebrating Pentecost in Jerusalem. Instead they were hidden away in a quiet room. Mary, the Mother of Jesus was with them.

Without the warmth of Jesus' presence among them, they felt stranded and clueless. When Jesus had walked and talked with them, their hearts had burned within them; but now there was a death-like stillness and silence within them, which chilled their hearts and froze their power to act.

*Then on that Pentecost morning, **everything changed**. The friends of Jesus knew all would be well.*

They described the experience like this. They said it was as if a strong, powerful wind had filled the whole house and as if tongues of fire had spread out and touched each one of them. They felt alive as never before. The warmth of God's love circulated through and among them, so that they felt compelled to rush out and share their joy with the whole world and to witness to the Good News of Jesus.

No longer tongue-tied, but with fiery conviction, the words tumbled out so fast and free, that in their excitement they sounded crazy, as if they'd lost their senses. At first people thought they were drunk.

*It was Peter who controlled the situation; **no longer afraid**, he told the crowds how God had generously poured out the Spirit upon all so that they could speak out. A great **change** took place amidst the listening crowds.'*

(Based on Acts 2:1-43)

Due to the power of the Holy Spirit and the witness of Peter, many thousands were baptised.

Saul had been persecuting these new Christians until his own **transformation** took place.

Here is Saul's story

'As I was travelling and coming near Damascus, about midday a bright light from the sky flashed suddenly round me. I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, "Saul, Saul! Why do you persecute me?"



"Who are you, Lord?" I asked. "I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you persecute," he said to me. The men with me saw the light but did not hear the voice of the one who was speaking to me. I asked, "What shall I do, Lord?" and the Lord said to me, "Get up and go into Damascus, and there you will be told everything that God has determined for you to do" I was blind because of the bright light, and so my companions took me by the hand and led me into Damascus.

In that city was a man named Ananias, a religious man who obeyed our Law and was highly respected by all the Jews living there. He came to me, stood by me, and said, "Brother Saul, see again!" At that very moment I saw again and looked at him. He said, "The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will, to see his righteous Servant, and to hear him speaking with his own voice. For you will be a witness for him to tell everyone what you have seen and heard. And now, why wait any longer? Get up and be baptised and have your sins washed away by praying to him."

(Based on Acts 22: 6-16)

Task

Look at these paintings of this event and choose the one that you like the best. Using one of the paintings, think about how the artist has shown the **transformation** that has taken place and the effect that it had on Saul. Record your thoughts and ideas on the attached template.

[The Conversion of Saul by School of Raphael](#)

[Conversion of Saint Paul by Michelangelo Buonarroti](#)

[The Conversion of St. Paul by Fra Angelico](#)

[Pentecost Week 2 Activity](#)

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