



Beacon Curriculum Themes – Reception



	2 days	5 weeks	1 week	5 weeks	2 weeks	5 weeks	5 weeks	1 week	5 weeks	5 weeks	2 weeks
R	Team building and problem solving	How does my life compare to other families across the world?	Giving thanks	What can we learn from Christian festivals and how does this compare with other faiths?	Nativity	How do inspirational people change the way we see the world?	Why is farming important to our area and what can we learn from animals?	Easter Symbols	What can we learn about plants and flowers that grow on our school or nearby?	Where is the coast near us and what is it like at the beach?	Celebration and revisit of year's



Yr R A1 - How does my life compare to other families across the world?

Key Reading

- Big Book of Families-Mary Hoffman & Ross Asquith
- All are Welcome – Alexandra Penfold

Overview of learning

What are the key learning threads?

Children will start their learning about **people** through a mixture of themselves and who they are in relation to their family, their school and the world. Their learning about **place** begins with Penrith and deepening their sense of belonging in their locality. Children will be introduced to new thinking by learning about the way in which people at our school live and how this is similar and different to them.

How will our Christian Values be explored?

The value of **Compassion** will be key to helping the children learn about helping others by understanding feelings of others and ensuring this is reflected in their own actions. There will also be a focus on **Joy** as they celebrate the beauty of families around the world.

What will the focus be for children's learning?

Learning will start by revisiting some basic health and self-care skills and how we can look after ourselves at school. We will talk about who is in our families and compare this with other children's families. We will talk about where we were born and locate this on a map and compare this to the people around us, understanding that not everyone that lives in Penrith was born in Penrith. We will develop understanding about how other places can be different to Penrith and why this is. Children will learn to use different media to create self-portraits and share their favourite songs with each other.

Supporting Texts

- Personalised books by teachers (focussed sentence structures)
- The Perfect Fit – Naomi Jones and James Jones
- Love makes a family

Enhancing Learning

Learning will be enhanced by walks around Penrith looking at different homes. We will be visited by health visitors and doctors as well as member of our own school team. We will notice the changes in seasons as part of our outdoor learning throughout the term.

Learning about families across the world at home

Talk about who is in your family. This could be people who you live with and people that live in different houses. Look at or take pictures of you and your family having fun during the summer holidays. Where is your favourite place to visit and why?
Could you draw a picture of you at your favourite place with your family?

YR A2 - What can we learn from celebrations across the world?

Key Reading

- Eight Candles to Light-Jonny Zucker & Jan Bargin Cohen
- Donovan's Big Day- Leslea Newman
- Ritu weds Chandi-Ameya Narvankar

Learning Overview

What are the key learning threads?

Children will start to learn about **People** of different faiths including Christianity and Judaism. They will be introduced to celebrations from different faiths and get an opportunity to understand their beliefs. This will also look at **places** of worship and their similarities and differences. Children will learn about different celebrations happen throughout the year and why they are special to people.

How will our Christian Values be explored?

The core Christian value of **faith** will be explored through festivals along with **Joy** as people of different faiths celebrate specific occasions in the calendar.

What will the focus be for children's learning?

Learning will explore celebrations in different cultures and beliefs and their similarities and differences. We will learn about Hanukah and how this is similar and different to advent in Christianity. Learning will also focus on how Christians celebrate Christmas, learn about the Nativity story and perform this to an audience. Children will identify key celebrations within their life time and begin to understand chronology. Children will develop their designing skills to create a wedding decoration.

Supporting Texts

- Let's Celebrate: Special days around the world – Kate DePalma
- Non-fiction books linked to religions
- Izzy Gizmo

Enhancing Learning

Learning will be enhanced through a visit to St Andrew's church as well as hearing from people of different religions. Children will take part in a Diwali workshop and the outdoors will be used to set up celebrations such as a wedding to enhance learning.

Learning about festivals at home

Talk about key events in your own life and look at family pictures of special occasions. Can you share any of these on Tapestry? Lots of people like to celebrate Christmas, what are your family traditions around this time of year?

Can you design and make a Christmas card, leaving it blank inside so we can send these to people in the local community?

