RE – Week 3

**Why do Jewish people have Shabbat each week?**

* Explain to it is a holy day each week where many Jewish people rest and really think about God. It is called ‘Shabbat’. To find out why they celebrate Shabbat each week we need to look at a story from the Jewish Torah. The Creation Story. Your child may remember this is also an important story to Christians.
* After reading the story ask you child to recall what God did on the seventh day of the creation story (rested and made it holy). Explain this is why Jewish people have a holy day where they also rest each week.
* Ask children if they remember how Jewish people celebrate Shabbat (we looked at this in the Autumn term). Look at the Shabbat information and ask your child to draw pictures and write sentences about what Jewish people do during Shabbat.

The Creation Story

In the beginning there was no earth or sky or sea or animals.  And then God spoke in the darkness:  "Let there be light!"  And right away there was light, scattering the darkness and showing the infinite space.  "That's good!" said God.  "From now on, when it's dark it will be 'night' and when it's light, it will be 'day'."

The evening came and the night passed and then the light returned.  That was the first day.

On the second day, God made the earth and over it He carefully hung a vast blue sky.  He stood back and admired His creation.  "That's good too!" said God and the second day was over.

The next morning God looked around and thought, "The earth needs to be a bit more organised."  So, He put all the water in one place and all the dry land in another.  When He had finished that, God made plants to cover the land.  Dandelions and daffodils appeared.  All sorts of trees and grasses began to grow.  "It's looking great," said God and that was the end of the third day.

On the fourth day, God looked around and thought, "The daylight still needs a bit more work and the night is just too dark."  So, He made the sun to light the sky during the day and the moon and stars to add a bit of sparkle to the night.  He hung them in the sky and stepped back to look at his work.  "This is coming along very well," said God.

The next day, God turned his attention to the water he had collected in the oceans.  "I want these waters teeming with life!"  As soon as He said it, it was so.  In no time, there were millions of small fish darting through the shallow water and huge fish swimming in the ocean.  God made birds, too.  He sent them soaring through the air.  "Ahh, that IS good!" said God.  The dusk fell over the water and the sky grew dark and that was the end of the fifth day.

On the sixth day, God added creatures to the land.  He made lions and tigers and bears.  He made rabbits and sheep and cows.  He added everything from ants to zebras to the land.  But He still felt something was missing.  So God added Mankind to enjoy and take care of all that He had created.  God looked around and was happy with all He had made.

After six days, the whole universe was completed.  On the seventh day God had a nice long rest and enjoyed looking at all He had made.









