JOY

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value JOY.

We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK TOGETHER ABOUT JOY...

Joy and happiness are wonderful feelings to experience, but they are very different. Joy is often understood to be an approach to life. Coming from inside, it is about being at peace in your spirit and thankful for all that is good in the world. For Christians, the knowledge that they are loved unconditionally by God helps them to know joy in their lives. Happiness on the other hand can be more of a passing feeling, based on things outside of you such as relationships with other people, possessions, places, thoughts and events.

Living in an attitude of gratitude can help us to know joy. What are you grateful for in your life?

Can you think of anything that stops you being joy-full?

THINK TOGETHER

Words of Wisdom

Sometimes your **joy** is the source of your smile, but sometimes your smile can be the source of your **joy**.

Thich Nhat Hanh - Vietnamese Buddhist monk

Think about these words.
What do you think they mean?

QUIZ Emojis tell the story

Read the story once again. Notice the ■ signs. Each time you see one, use the words from the list below to describe Mary's emotions as the story unfolds.

Design your own emojis to illustrate the words

Mary was:

Confused **Weary**
Courageous **Grieving**
Overjoyed **Shocked**



READ TOGETHER...

The First Easter Morning



At the end of a long, sleepless Sabbath night Mary set off with her spices for the garden tomb where the body of Jesus had been put.■ As she reached the place, the first rays of the sun were catching the branches of the trees, birds were singing, everything was as it always was.... but what had happened to the stone that had covered the entrance to the tomb? ■ Mary was rooted to the spot. Who could possibly have rolled away the huge boulder? She peered inside. Jesus was gone! ■ Panic stricken she raced back to tell the disciples the news. Together they returned quickly to the garden and entered the cave.

Peter crouched down. He touched the strips of linen that had been wrapped round Jesus' body and now just lay there, neatly folded. Wild thoughts were now racing around the disciples' heads .....Jesus had once told them he would rise from the dead. Could it really be true? Could Jesus really be alive?

Mary, meanwhile, was still in the garden, and all she could do was weep.■ Gathering all her courage she slowly stepped down into the tomb. ■ To her amazement two angels, dazzling white, sat before her! She had no idea what was going on. Then one of them spoke, "Why are you crying?"

Mary replied, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they have put him." In a daze, Mary stumbled back into the garden and sat down on the nearest patch of grass, tears streaming down her face. She did not see the person who came and stood just beside her. He spoke very gently, "Why are you crying?"

Assuming he was the gardener Mary said, "Sir, if you have taken the body that was in this tomb, *please* tell me where you have put it now."

"Mary," came the reply. Mary looked up, **joy** flooding through her whole body. It wasn't the gardener who stood before her, it was Jesus. He was alive! ■

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HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Joyful Memories



Ask an adult in your family to show you some photos on their phone of a happy occasion or event that you both remember.

Which are the most **joyful** smiles?

Either print out thumbnails of the smiles or recreate the smile as a painting or collage. Write a sentence about the memory.

FAMILY FOCUS

"Let your **joy** be in your journey, not in the hope of your destination." *Anon*

When did doing something, or going somewhere together as a family, bring you **joy**?

Draw a picture or make a collage showing the event.



FASCINATING FACTS AND HALL OF FAME

On this HOME SCHOOL VALUE sheet the FASCINATING FACTS section and HALL OF FAME section are linked because they are about the famous piece of music called Ode to Joy and it's composer Ludwig van Beethoven.



FASCINATING FACTS

Ode to Joy

Ode to joy by Beethoven is one of the most famous pieces of all music of all time!

It is part of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. Beethoven wanted to set the ideas in a poem by Friedrich Schiller to music. The poem is about the joy and bonds of human friendship.

In 1985 Beethoven's piece was adopted by the Council of Europe (later to become the European Union) as its theme music because it was felt that it symbolised the values of peace, freedom and solidarity, which were shared by all the countries.



When the 9th symphony was first performed in Vienna on 7th May 1824, the audience loved it so much that, at the end they all stood to cheer and clap. Realising that Beethoven was completely deaf and couldn't hear them, they threw their hats and scarves into the air again and again to make sure he knew how much they had enjoyed the concert.

Why not enter 'Ode to Joy' into a computer search engine and listen?

HALL OF FAME

About the composer

Ludwig van Beethoven is one of the greatest composers of classical music who has ever lived.

He was born in 1770 and died when he was only 57.

Beethoven had to leave school at 11 years old because his father was an alcoholic and unable to work. Ludwig needed to earn money to support the family.

Beethoven wasn't only a composer, but also an accomplished pianist and viola player. He performed in public for the first time at 7 years old.

At twelve years old, Beethoven was already composing beautiful music.

At the age of 25 Beethoven began to go deaf. He wrote some of his best work after he had lost his sense of hearing completely.

Before settling down to work Beethoven used to dip his head in cold water. No one quite knew why he did this!

Beethoven wrote one of his best loved pieces of music entirely at night. He called it 'The Moonlight Sonata.'

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