Coley Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

SUBJECT FOCUS:	RE	YEAR 4	TERM 5

WHAT? – Key Knowledge

What is the Best Way for a Jew to Show Commitment to God?

We all make commitments in our lives. We can have commitments that are religious or secular. For example saying prayers (religious) or attending a club each week (secular).

There are some activities, responsiblities and commitments that we are not allowed to make until we are the right age.

As a Jewish boy or girl grows up they are expected to show commitment and take responsibility for their faith.

There are lots of ways Jews show commitment to God. We have learnt about some of these before. Following the Ten Commandments, visiting the Synagogue, following Kashrut and celebrating Passsover.

At 13 a Jewish boy will take his Bar Mitzvah. A ceremony where he takes the responsibility for his own faith.

At 12 a Jewish may take a Bat Mitzvah. A ceremony or celebration where she takes the responsibility for her own faith.

When Bar or Bat Mitzvahs are celebrated there is a special religious ceremony and often then a party. Usually family and friends are invited.

Jews believe doing good deeds shows commitment to God. There are 613 Mitzvot in the Torah.

Another way to show commitment is to say the Shema prayer twice a day.

A Jewish Family Celebrating a Bar and Bat Mitzvah.



WHAT? – Key vocabulary

The Ten Commandments – The Laws/rule given to Moses from God that Jews are expected to follow.
Seder – the meal at home to celebrate Passover
Synagogue – Jewish place of worship
Torah – Jewish sacred book. The five books of Moses. These books are also found in The Bible. They are the first five books of the Old Testament.
Bar Mitzvah – a boy' coming of age at 13. Usually marked with a ceremony in a synagogue and a family celebration.
Bat Mitzvah – a girl's coming of age at 12. This may be marked in different ways in different Jewish communities.
Mitzvot – The Torah has 613 Mitzvot – 613 commandments. They are often called the 'Good Deeds'
Tu B'Shevat – Jewish holiday occurring on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat known as the New Year for Trees
Shema – the prayer that Jews say to that confirms their belief in God.
Ceremony – a formal religious or public occasion. Often celebrating an event, achievement or anniversary.
Shabbat – a special time of the week that starts on sunset on Friday and finishes on sunset on Saturday. It is a 'day of rest' to think about God.
Kashrut – the special dietary rules followed by Jews.
Rite of Passage – a ceremony or event to mark important points in a person's life. For example moving from being a child to an adult.

Reading from the Torah as part of the Bar Mitzvah or Bat Mitzvah Ceremony.







A Boy Wearing a Kippah

A Family Photo to Commemorate a Girl's Bat Mitzvah



Examples of Bar and Bat Mitzvah Invitations





Wine, Challah bread and Shabbat Candles.
Families have these for celebrating Shabbat each week.



The Words of the Shema Prayer said Twice a Day.

It is said in Hebrew.

Hear, O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One.

Blessed be the name of the glory of His kingdom forever and ever.

Possible Experiences

Video clips of a Jewish life.
Explore what happens at a Bar and Bat Mitzvah.
Revise knowledge of Kashrut, Synagogue and The Ten Commandments.
Use artefacts from school house in lessons to explain their meanings.

Learning Outcomes

Explain why I think some things need to wait until you are a certain age.
Give examples of things I am committed to and explain which ones are more or less important to me.
Describe some of the ways that Jews choose to show commitment to God and am starting to understand that they do this in different ways.
Express an opinion on which ways I think might be the best ways for Jews to show their commitment to God and start to give reasons.