

Easter Assembly 2012

Welcome and Hello.

Today we will be talking about Easter and I have brought some things along to remind us of the Easter story.

Christmas Tree. Who can tell me what a Christmas Tree has to do with the Easter story? At Christmas we remember that Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph in a stable. Jesus grew up first in Egypt and then in Israel and he became a carpenter or joiner like his earthly father Joseph.

Smiley face. The next part of the story about Jesus is that when he was about 30 he travelled round with his special friends the disciples and made people happy, by healing them if they were ill and feeding them if they were hungry and teaching them about God. On Palm Sunday, which is this coming Sunday, we remember crowds came to greet Jesus when he came into Jerusalem on a donkey and cheered and shouted. Does anyone know the special word the crowds shouted? "Hosanna".

Cross. Just a few days later on Good Friday those crowds had turned against Jesus and the leaders who were jealous of Jesus and felt threatened by him, ordered him to be crucified to die on a cross even though he had done nothing wrong, the only person to ever live and never do anything wrong.

Easter Egg. Jesus was buried in an empty tomb/cave dug into the rock and a huge stone was rolled in front of it and some guards put to watch over the tomb. From Friday night to Saturday night was the Jewish Sabbath and no work was allowed to be done. On the Sunday morning Jesus' friends went to his tomb to see to his body. Amazingly he was gone. Later on he appeared to his friends the disciples and then to hundreds of other people. We have an empty egg to remember the empty tomb and the egg symbolizes the stone that was rolled away and also the fact that when Jesus died he took everyone's badness/sin away so that everyone can have a new life like Jesus did. Eggs are a sign of new life as they hatch into chicks. They also mark the end of lent, when people used to give up eggs for 40 days and then they would give decorated eggs as gifts on Easter Sunday. Nowadays most eggs are made of? Chocolate.

Song: Ha ha hallelujah

Prayer:

Dear God we thank you for the Easter story. We thank you that the story doesn't end with the cross but with an empty tomb and that Jesus died and came alive again to rescue us. As we eat our Easter eggs help us to remember the good news of the empty tomb. Amen