

## **Everywhere around me. CD 3**

Welcome to our Easter Assembly. Year 5 and 6 are going to tell you the Easter Story through the Easter Alphabet. Watch the story unfold. Every class will help with our celebrations. We begin with class 3 and their Easter Jubilations!

### **Class 3 -Easter Jubilation CD 4**

A is for Approaching Jerusalem

As Jesus and his disciples approached Jerusalem, they came to the Mount of Olives. Jesus and his friends had walked the long journey to Jerusalem, and were almost there. As they stood on the hills overlooking Jerusalem, they could see the rooftops, the walls round the city, and the great golden temple glittering in the sun. They were almost there- but not quite- but they had no idea what a happy and sad week lay ahead of them.

B is for Bethany.

As Jesus came near Bethany at the Mount of Olives, he sent two disciples ahead with these instructions; "Go to the village there ahead of you....."

The disciples of Jesus wanted to hurry up and get to Jerusalem, but Jesus was telling two of them to go into a nearby village, while he and the other disciples waited. I wonder if they were puzzled or if they knew and trusted Jesus and they did not need to ask why.

C is for Colt

"..as you go in, you will find a colt tied up that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If someone asks you why you are untying it, tell them that the Master needs it." They went on their ways and found everything as Jesus had told them. The donkey hadn't been ridden before, but it didn't seem to mind when the disciples helped Jesus onto its' back.

Class 4 will now perform for us a play called Tremble and Thunder.

## D is for Disciples

When Jesus came near Jerusalem, at the place where the road came down from the Mount of Olives, the large crowd of his disciples began to thank God and praise Him in loud voices for all the great things they had seen Jesus do. How happy they were.

### **Violins - Jig**

## E is for Excitement

A large crowd of people spread their cloaks on the road whilst others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. They were noisy and shouting out in happiness calling him "king", "Messiah" and "Saviour". Hosannas were shouted to God, praising Him for sending his Son to earth.

***We will now all sing We Have a King***

## F is for Fury

Jesus went to visit the Temple in the centre of Jerusalem and was very upset about what greeted Him. This was the house of God. He was furious that people were using it for buying and selling things. He overturned the tables of the money-changers and the stools of those who sold pigeons.

## G is for God's house

Jesus said to them "It is written in the Scripture that God said, 'My Temple will be called a house of prayer.' But you are making it a hideout for thieves!"

He was not in a mood, and he wasn't upset that there was a market in the special place. He was cross because they were all cheating - that were charging too much and not giving people enough change when they paid for something. They were not being honest and were using God's holy house for stealing and cheating.

## H is for the healing hands of Jesus

The blind and the crippled came to Jesus in the Temple, and he healed them. The chief priests and the teachers of the Law became angry when they saw the wonderful things he was doing and the children in the temple shouting, "Praise to David's Son!" So they asked Jesus, "Do you hear what they are saying?"

"Indeed I do," answered Jesus. "Haven't you ever read this scripture? 'You have trained the children and babies to offer perfect praise.'"

## I is for Iscariot

Judas Iscariot, one of the disciples of Jesus, met some horrid people who wanted to trick and kill Jesus. Although Judas had been a friend of Jesus for many years, he agreed to do as these horrid people wanted. He even took money for doing it. Judas agreed to let them know when they could have Jesus arrested. He really got himself into bad company. He was not really much of a friend to Jesus after all.

## J is for Jar of Perfume

Jesus was in Bethany at the house of a man who had suffered from a dreaded skin-disease. While Jesus was eating, a woman came in with a jar full of very expensive perfume made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on Jesus' head.

For this woman her most precious possession was a jar of very expensive perfume. Perhaps she had been keeping it for ages, for a special occasion; instead she poured all of the perfume over Jesus' head. In those days it would have been a very special thing to do.

## K is for Knowing

Because Jesus was so close to God, he often knew things that people around him didn't know. He knew that there were people trying to catch him and kill him, he knew that Judas was helping them, and he knew where he and his close friends would eat a special supper together. So he sent two of his friends to get this ready in the upstairs room of a house.

## **L is for Last Supper**

Jesus and his friends sat down to eat the last meal together-the Last Supper. It was the time of a special festival, the Passover, when they were remembering how good God had been over the centuries.

Suddenly Jesus did strange things. He took the bread and wine and said, "Eat and drink this in remembrance of me." He was telling his disciples that, after he had died, whenever they ate bread and drank wine in this way, he would be with them in a special way even though they could not see him. What a gift!

## **M is for Mount of Olives**

After Jesus and his friends had finished their last supper together, they walked a short distance to a place outside the walls of Jerusalem, where they had been sleeping at night- a place on the Mount of Olives. Instead of settling down to sleep, Jesus told his disciples to stay awake and pray then he went off to pray on his own. He knew that the time would soon come when he would be arrested and killed, but the disciples did not understand and they fell asleep.

## **N is for night**

It was late at night now and some very puzzling, worrying and tiring things had happened to the friends of Jesus. They had been told to pray, but they were too worn out and tired to stay awake any longer. They dropped off to sleep. Rising from his prayers, Jesus went back to the disciples.

## **O is for Opposition**

Jesus was speaking to his friends when a crowd arrived led by Judas, one of the twelve disciples. He came up to Jesus to kiss him, but it was not a nice kiss at all. Some of the people who were against Jesus came by night, bringing soldiers to arrest him. Because they didn't know who Jesus was, Judas used a secret sign-a kiss- so that the right person was arrested. It was not a loving kiss, or a kiss that said 'hello', but a kiss that said 'that's him!' Then they took Jesus away.

## **P is for Peter's denial**

They arrested Jesus and took him away to the House of the high Priest; Peter followed behind, but at a distance. A fire had been lit in the centre of the courtyard, and Peter joined those who had lit it. When Peter was asked if he knew Jesus, he said he didn't, as he was scared. As Peter spoke, the nearby cockerel crowed, and Jesus turned round and looked at him. How sorry and ashamed Peter was that he had let Jesus down.

## **Q is for Questions**

After Jesus had been arrested, he was taken to the Roman Governor, who was called Pontius Pilate ( Ponshus Pielat). Pilate asked Jesus the questions like "Are you the king of the Jews?"

Jesus knew that the enemies did not really want to know the answers, they just wanted to trick him. So he did not really answer, which did not please those who were trying to catch him out.

## **R is for Robes of Purple**

When Pilate had finished asking Jesus questions, the soldiers took him away. They dressed him up in a purple robe to make him look like a pretend king, and they made a crown made out of thorny branches on his head. Then they laughed at him and made fun of him.

## **S is for Sadness**

Things got worse for Jesus. The soldiers gave back his own clothes and then made him carry a heavy cross, which he needed help with. When they reached the outskirts of Jerusalem, just outside the wall, the soldiers nailed him to the cross. When Jesus was dying, all his friends were sad and frightened. Most of them were so scared that they ran away.

## **S is for Son of God**

Whilst he was on the cross, Jesus spoke to his father in heaven and said, " Forgive them Father, they don't know what they are doing. " Then with a loud cry Jesus died. As he died, one of the soldiers realised Jesus was special – he was not like other people; he was God's son.

## **T is for Tomb**

One of Jesus' friends did something special for him. This friend was called Joseph of Arimathea. When Jesus died, Joseph asked for the body of Jesus. He took it down from the cross, wrapped it in a clean sheet and laid it in his own tomb, in a hollowed rock. What a kind and lovely thing to do for Jesus.

## **U is for Under orders.**

Not everyone was sad that Jesus had died. The people who had been against him for a long time were pleased he was dead, and they would not have to listen to him any more. But they were worried that Jesus' friends would steal his body so Pilate ordered a great heavy stone to be rolled in front of the entrance. It was so heavy it probably took several men to move it! Pilate also ordered some of the soldiers to stand guard and watch the tomb.

## **V is for very early**

It was very early one morning, soon after Jesus had died, that one of his friends Mary Magdalene, came to his tomb in the garden. It was still quite dark and she was still very sad, but it turned out to be a very special morning for her. Quickly she realised that the big stone had gone from the front of the tomb and the cave was empty. She ran as fast as she could to tell the other friends of Jesus that he had gone.

*Class 2 will now sing Jesus is alive!*

**W is for wonder**

Peter and John came running to the tomb when Mary Magdalene told them the body of Jesus had gone. They stooped down and went inside. They saw the cloths Jesus had been wrapped in. They wondered that he was not there- yet they did not really understand what had happened.

**X is for the Love of God**

Peter and John went home. The tomb was empty, the garden was quiet and Mary was left alone; she was so upset. She was sure somebody had stolen Jesus' body and so she stood and cried.

Mary was so upset that when a man came towards her she thought he was the gardener. Only when the man called her by her name, 'Mary', did she realise it was Jesus. He was alive! He had risen from the dead!

**Let us all sing He has risen!**

**Y is for yes**

The disciples were so scared of the enemies of Jesus, that they locked themselves in a room together so that no one could catch them. They locked the doors and windows so that nobody could get in.

And then Jesus was with them. Mary had seen him in the garden and now he came to his other friend. They were so pleased to see him alive again. He showed them the places in his hands and feet where the nails had been and the wound in his side from the soldier's spear. They could hardly believe it- but YES, it was JESUS- he HAD risen from the dead!

**Z is for Alpha and Omega**

"Go then my friends, to people everywhere, teach them to obey everything I have taught you. I will be with you to the end of age," Jesus said.

We do not think of God as so many years old. He created the universe, and he made everything in our world. God has always been there - and will always be there with Jesus by his side.

**We will all now sing I danced in the morning.**

Easter celebrations still take place today. It is a time when we say thank you to God for sending his son to earth before letting him die to save everyone.

We eat Easter eggs, play Easter hunts, spend time with family and friends. Chicks, rabbits and Lambs born around Easter represent the 'new life of Jesus.

**KS1 will now sing Celebrate! CD 4**

Class 5 - Easter March

**KS2 - He's Alive!**

**Jokes - Why did the Easter egg hide?** He was a little chicken!

**How do you post a bunny?** Hare mail

**What happened to the egg when he was tickled too much?** He cracked up.

**What do you call a rabbit that tells good jokes?** *A funny bunny!*

**How did the soggy Easter Bunny dry himself?** *With a hare-dryer!*

**What kinds of books does the Easter bunny like?** *Ones with hoppy endings!*

**Do you know how the Easter bunny stays in shape?** *Hhhhareobics!*

**Knock-Knock**

**Who's there?**

**Some bunny.**

**Some bunny who?**

**Some bunny is eating my Easter eggs!**



prayer -

Hands together and eyes closed .

Lord God,

Thank you for springtime,

and for Easter stories

of new beginnings!

Thank you for all that

amazes us and gives us joy.

Life is your gift,

and it's amazing!

Help us to see and celebrate its wonder

today and every day.

**Amen.**

SN-

Go out to This is the day ( piano)

And **He has risen!** ( CD 3 no 11 )