A filmed assembly:

It’s Christmas! But it’s not the same.

The Christmas story: Jesus is born.

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| Rationale | In 2020 many pupils and staff will be aware that Christmas will not be the same this year. Covid 19 will prevent us doing several of our traditions. There will be a sense of loss. This assembly explores this, and encourages pupils and staff to think positively about what they CAN do. The assembly tells the Christmas story, focusing on the Christian belief that celebrating the birth of Jesus can still bring us joy, no matter what else is going on.  |
| Title | It’s Christmas! But it’s not the same.  |
| Aim | To consider the reasons why Christmas will feel different this year, to encourage us to think positively about what we can do and to consider the Christian belief that God was doing something amazing that first Christmas when he sent his son to Earth.  |
| Stage | First and Second level.  |
| Objectives | Pupils will experience a sense of mystery as they reflect on God sending his son to earth. Pupils will know the Christmas story and be able to describe why the Christmas story is so important to Christians. Pupils will be able to give examples of what they CAN do this Christmas to celebrate Jesus birth.  |
| Link to CfE | * RME curriculum.

Through exploring Bible stories, I can describe some beliefs Christians have about God and Jesus. **RME 1-01a, RME 2-01a*** I am developing an awareness of the ways in which Christians celebrate different times of year and can relate these to my own life and community. **RME 1-03b**
* Cross curricular links to Health and Wellbeing *(positive thinking and mental health*),
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| Is this part of a series?  | Yes. 10 Must Know Bible Stories.  |
| Introduction | Set outside the presenters discuss why Christmas will be different this year (2020) and consider how that makes us feel. Children are asked to consider the top 5 things they enjoy about Christmas/the holidays.  |
| Stimulus/Stimuli | A Nativity set is used to tell the story of the birth of Jesus.  |
| Guided reflection | A discussion on the story, Christian belief and an opportunity to consider what new traditions we can create this Christmas.  |
| Response and possible next steps.  | A challenge to come up with a new tradition to celebrate Christmas this year and to read or watch the story of Jesus birth for yourself. Learning will be extended using resources from 10 Must Know Bible Stories https://tenbiblestories.org/resources/christmas-the-birth-of-jesus/ |
| Running time |  |