

Knowledge Organiser

Year: 5 Subject: RE Unit: What can we learn about the world/knowledge/meaning of life from the great philosophers?

Overview:

During this sequence of learning, pupils will be introduced to the religion of Buddhism. They will investigate what we can learn about the world, the knowledge we have and life from the great philosophers. The children will explore the concepts of right and wrong.

What should I already know?

Philosophy

- Philosophy is thinking about the world and making sense out of it.
- Aristotle, Plato and Socrates were great philosophers from Ancient Greek times. Their thinking has taught us about what is right and wrong, justice and behaving in an ethical way.
- Suffering is caused by pain and loss. This can be as a result of natural or medical disaster. Suffering can also happen as a result of the behaviour of people towards others.
- Utilitarianism is thinking about right and wrong actions. It says that the best action is the one that makes the most happiness or usefulness.

What will I know by the end of the unit?

Philosophy

- The great philosophers help us to understand the meaning of life through their teachings and quotes that remain relevant to today, for example:
  - Be content and make the most of what we have in life.
  - We are happier if we focus on the good things in our life.
  - We are in charge of whether our lives will be happy or sad.
  - Embrace everything that happens to us as experiences to work through.
  - See obstacles and problems as an experience that we will learn from.
- What is right and what is wrong: -
  - When we use the word 'right' we talk about principles and ideals. These are the rules

Vocabulary:

Buddhism

The world's fourth-largest religion. The religion has a variety of traditions, beliefs and spiritual practices which are based on original teachings attributed to the Buddha.

Buddha

Buddha is a Pali word which means "The awakened one".



Prince Siddhartha

A prince who lived sometime in the 6th to 4th century BC. He is said to have grown up in luxury, shielded from aging, sickness, and death.



Philosophers

People who study of the basic ideas about knowledge, right and wrong, reasoning, and the value of things.

Marcus Aurelius (121AD - 180AD)

A Roman emperor from 161 to 180 and a Stoic philosopher.

Jeremy Bentham (1748-1832)

An English philosopher, jurist, and social reformer regarded as the founder of modern utilitarianism.

and conventions we develop to help us run our lives.

- When we think about rules and conventions being broken, we say this is 'wrong'.
- Sometimes it is difficult to say whether something is absolutely right or wrong.
- Fairness is very important in determining the principles we live by.
- Our ideas about right and wrong are learned through a mix of social interactions and what we see, hear and read.



### Buddhism

- Buddhism is a religion to about 300 million people around the world.
- The word comes from 'budhi', 'to awaken'.
- Buddhists see Buddhism as a philosophy or 'way of life'.
- Buddhists strive to:
  - lead a moral life,
  - be mindful and aware of thoughts and actions
  - to develop wisdom and understanding.
- Buddhism teaches that the solutions to our problems are within ourselves not outside.
- The Buddha asked all his followers not to take his word as true, but rather to test the teachings for themselves.
- Buddhists believe that each person decides for themselves and takes responsibility for their own actions and understanding.

Enlightenment

When a Buddhist finds the truth about life and stops being reborn because they have reached Nirvana.

Dhamma

The teaching of the Buddha.

'the middle path'

Moderation - taking a middle way between extremes.

Principles

An idea or belief.

Ideals

A standard of perfection, beauty, or excellence.

Obstacles

Something that makes it difficult to do something.

Impede

To interfere with the movement or progress of something/someone.

Dispositions

Combinations of knowledge, skills and attitudes include - courage and curiosity, trust and playfulness, perseverance, confidence and responsibility.