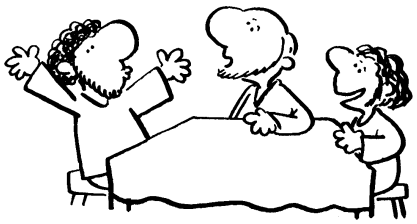
CONFIRMATION

Before Jesus was taken up to heaven he spoke to his apostles reassuring them that they would not be alone in the mission they had to carry out.

Acts 1:8

'Very soon,' Jesus said, God will send you his Spirit. He will help you to speak out bravely. You are to tell the people in Jerusalem and Judea and Samaria- and the whole world- what I have done. Tell them the good news.'

After the Ascension of the Lord the apostles went back to Jerusalem as they had been told to do so by Jesus. There they waited for the coming of the Holy Spirit.



Acts 2

The Story of Pentecost

When Pentecost day came round, they all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them.

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language.

They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.' Everyone was amazed and unable to explain it and they asked one another what it all meant.

Peter stood up to speak. 'Let me tell you about Jesus,' he said. He told them the wonderful things Jesus had said and done; how he had been put to death; how God had brought him back to life again.

He told them they must begin a new life. 'You must be baptized in the name of Jesus and God will give you his Spirit. He will stay with you always and help you.'

How do you think the apostles may have felt before the coming of the Holy Spirit and after they received the Holy Spirit?

Before	*After*

JESUS –A SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE

Jesus' whole life and mission was carried out in communion with the Holy Spirit who had been given to him by the Father. Find the Bible references to match these pictures showing how Jesus was filled with God's Spirit.

What is the Spirit of God like?

Symbols are an important part of our lives. Flags or colours worn by sporting teams all have a much deeper meaning. Take a look again at your school crest or your family court of arms. They all have symbols which are much more than just an image or design.

To help us understand who the Holy Spirit is we use three main symbols.

Fire

Wind

Dove

Luke 12:49 'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled.'

Acts 2:2 'And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.'

Luke 3:21-22 'So Jesus was baptised. And as soon as he came out of the water, the sky opened, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him like a dove. Then a voice from heaven said, 'This is my own dear Son, and I am pleased with him.'