

Questions About Santa

We are often asked, "How do you deal with the questions about Santa?"

So here are some thoughts for you to consider.

What do you say when a child asks, "Is Santa Real?"

Always the first response to a question like that should be "what do you think?" Once you know where they're coming from you can fit your answer accordingly, taking into account the age of the child of course.

If a child asks a SRE teacher (assuming the teacher hasn't debunked Santa without being asked) it's almost certainly because the kids in the playground have already been talking about it, so most likely doubts are already there.

We don't do a young child any favours by going against what their parents teach them, and we always have to respect other's beliefs. But it's fine to say what you believe and why. We'd prefer SRE teachers give a non-committal answer, e.g. "Lots of people make a big fuss about Santa, but for me Jesus is the important part of Christmas and Jesus is with us all year around" - and move on.

If you find yourself in the middle of a full on discussion you can't avoid, maybe include:

* Different people believe different things about Santa - like he only comes to you if you're good. What do you think about that? And different families have different traditions, just for fun.

* Some say that the Santa tradition came from a good man called St Nicholas who lived in Turkey many years ago and secretly gave presents to needy children.

*On the other hand, the other Christmas story, about the birth of Jesus is recorded in the Bible and has been celebrated for thousands of years.

* How do we know who is more important, Santa or Jesus? The date, i.e. the calendar that we base daily planning on, is calculated from the time Jesus was born. It's the most important time in the history of the world.

We would recommend that you shouldn't be the one to say, "Santa isn't real!" Save the conflicts for when it really matters. They'll find out soon enough.

Blessings
The GodSpace Team

