

Season: Lent (Shrove Tuesday & Lenten promises)	Year Group: Y3/4	No. of lessons: 3 and ongoing
Links: Cambs: CFF1, CFF2, CFF3, CSC2, CSC3, CPE2 CPE1, Pborough: CPE4, CRC1, CRC2, CRC3, CSC2, CPE1 Norfolk: CBB, CP, CLS. CKF		
Learning objectives: To understand the significance of Lent for Christians To experience, in an appropriate way, a form of Lenten self-discipline		
Questions for reflection: What am I prepared to give up? What would encourage me to give something up? Am I good at waiting for something special?		
Activities and experiences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Find out about Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras) carnivals that happen throughout the world. Design your own costume for a Mardi Gras procession. Display? There are a lot of photographs of Mardi Gras processions on the web as each city advertises its own – e.g. New Orleans on www.cajunimages.com/mardi_gras.htm ◆ On Shrove Tuesday make and share pancakes. Understand the Christian reason for making these on this particular day (using up rich foods on the last day before the Lenten period of abstinence begins). ◆ Devise a means of counting the 40 days of Lent e.g. create 40 purple paper fish and hang them from the ceiling, at the end of each day capture one and add it to a net hanging by the board (remember don't count Sundays in the 40). The fish is a good symbol to use as (a) Western Christians are not supposed to eat meat in Lent, only fish (b) the fish is a symbol of Christ as its Greek name <i>ichthus</i> is a mnemonic for the words "<i>Jesus Christ God's Son Saviour</i>" (in Greek of course!). Purple is the colour of Lent and reminds us this is a season for self-examination and penitence. <i>Or you may like to devise your own Lenten counting devices; use appropriate religious logic for this, don't just pick any counting method!</i> ◆ Talk with a member of the local church community, if possible, to find out what Christians do in Lent. Imagine you are a Christian thinking about how you might need to change your behaviour during Lent. Write down three things you could do, including at least one thing you could realistically do now (whether you are a Christian or not). Seal your list in an envelope. Try to remember to keep your promise for the rest of term. At the end of term open the envelopes again and let pupils see if they have been successful, or remembered, their Lenten promise. (Note – this is a very personal thing to do, no pupil should be forced to reveal what they have written in their secret envelope.) 		