## RE – Local church/ community

Each one of us belongs to several different communities, e.g. our family community, the school community, the area where we live etc. Think about the classroom community. What makes it function well? What are the ways in which individuals help make the class community a happy one? Read this story.

The Castleford estate where Jack and Holly lived had a good community. Sister Christine who lived there was always thinking of good ideas to bring people together and help them take responsibility. There were after school clubs to help children with homework, a rota for visiting the housebound people, a football club, a pre-school group where parents and carers could meet and talk. Sometimes, there were outings. Sister Christine organised a residents' committee which had responsibility for running the various activities and everyone who wanted to, had a part to play. The estate was a happy place to live.

One day a new family came to live on the estate. They had a little boy called Alfie who was deaf. Alfie went to a different school from the other children on the estate, so he did not know anyone. Jack saw him coming home from school and told Holly about him. They had not seen him at any of the activities. So, they decided to go and visit him...

## SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- ℮ What do you think happened next in the story?
- ℮ Why was the Castleford estate a happy place to live?
- Why do you think Sister Christine helped the Castleford community?
- Here with the word community?
- ℮ What are the advantages of being part of a community?
- What are the demands of being part of a community?
- What helps to build up community?

Activity: I want you to think about what community means to you. How does it make you feel being part of a community or club? Once you have thought about this, I would like you to make a mind map for your community. Think about the different clubs and groups that you belong to in your family, at school and at your local church. Put the word Community in big letters in the middle and add all the groups you belong to around the outside. Be creative, use different colours, add small drawings etc.

