**Holy Communion.**

1. Re-cap work from last week (**www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zwcd2hv)** and read the information below.
2. Design a poster to describe Holy Communion - include sub-headings, pictures, labels and captions.

The most important act of Christian worship is Holy Communion. Each Church has its own name for this service. In the Catholic Church it is the *Mass* in the Free Church it is the *Holy Communion or Last Supper* and in the Church of England it is often referred to as the *Eucharist*.



Luke 22:14 – 20.

How did Holy Communion begin?

Meals are a time when families and friends can get together, talk and share things.

On the night before Judas betrayed him, Jesus shared a meal with his disciples. It was to be the *Last Supper* they were to share together before his death. It was a meal to celebrate the Jewish festival of Passover. At the meal Jesus said to remember him by breaking bread together (Luke 22:14-20). As soon as Jesus left the earth the disciples started to meet together to ‘break bread’. Christians continue to do this today. This is Holy Communion.

‘…then, he [Jesus] takes a bread loaf, thanks his father and rips it into pieces; each member of the team gets a chunk. He says, ”This bread symbolises me, my body. It’ll be ripped apart for you. I want you to re-enact this as a memory trigger. Don’t forget me.” They [the disciples] finish the meal and Jesus picks up the wine cup, deep in thought. He says, “This wine cup is the New Contract sealed with my blood. Blood that’ll hit the ground for you.

*(As told in ‘The Word on the Street’)*

What happens in Holy Communion?

There are two parts to the Church of England service of Holy Communion (The Eucharist);

1. The Ministry of the Word. The Bible is read, a sermon is preached and prayers are said. Worshippers ask for forgiveness for their sins and they remember the needs of others.
2. The Ministry of the Sacrament. The worshippers wish each other peace, and then the words of the Last Supper are recited (from the Bible – from Maundy Thursday in the holy week of Easter). The bread and wine are given to worshippers as they kneel at the altar.

What do Christians believe about Holy Communion?

* The Church of England believes that Holy Communion is a time for remembering and being thankful for the death of Jesus. They believe the bread and wine are simply that – bread and wine
* Catholics believe that at some time during the service the bread and wine are mysteriously transformed into the body and blood of Jesus.