

Autumn 1 2023 Church webpage

Collective Worship

This term, our collective worship (planned with Rev. Felicity and Barrington) has focused on the theme of 'Wisdom'. Christians believe that true wisdom comes from God. Wisdom is insight into the way life works: a proper understanding of the consequences of our thoughts, words and actions and an awareness of the true value of things. It's not just knowing the right thing to do, but doing actually doing the right thing. Wisdom isn't about what you know (this is knowledge/information) but about what you do with what you know – the application of your knowledge. Our Big Questions were:

- How do we act responsibly and think about the wisdom of our words and actions?
- How do we appreciate the wisdom of others?

Collective Worship Autumn 1 highlights:

Week 1 – In Collective Worship this week, we join back together as a whole school community after the summer holidays. We reflect on our school values and how they help us in school and in life as we demonstrate our vision to **Live Life to the Full**. As we prepare for Harvest, we sing together. Our Petersfield Harvest favorites include Cauliflowers Fluffy and the Harvest Samba. For our Harvest Festival at church later in September (more information to follow soon) where families are able to, pupils are encouraged to bring into school food goods suitable for the local church foodbank and / or a monetary donation for Machemba School.

Week 2 – This week we introduce our theme for the half term of 'Wisdom'. Together we consider what wisdom is. Wisdom is insight into the way life works: a proper understanding of the consequences of our thoughts, words and actions and an awareness of the true value of things. Wisdom isn't about what you know (this is knowledge/information) but about what you do with what you know – the application of your knowledge. It's not just knowing the right thing to do, but doing actually doing the right thing. This week, Rev Felicity leads children in exploring some well know words of wisdom or proverbs. She reflects on the Biblical teaching that says wisdom is a gift from God.

Week 3 – Our Big Questions for the half term are: How do we act responsibly and think about the wisdom of our words and actions? and How do we appreciate the wisdom of others? This week we reflect on a story that Jesus told about building firm foundation for our lives. Together we explore how our values, including love and peace, give us firm foundation for our future. We continue to use the 'windows mirrors and door' analogy to help us reflect and make decisions. We can look at the world (through the window), reflect personally (look in a mirror) and think about the choice and actions we can take (which doors are open to us).

Week 4 – Continuing with our school collective worship theme of wisdom, this week we explore the wisdom that we can gain from our parents. Rev Felicity shares the commandment – honour your father and mother - from the 10 Commandments as we think about how we respect and listen to our parents. Reflecting on what we have learnt, we begin to create our garlands, writing on the flowers the examples of advice and teaching that we remember from our parents and grandparents. Thank you to Rev Felicity for leading our Harvest Festival Service at St Andrew's Church.

Week 5 – This week, we introduced the first of two collective worships that introduce children to the wisdom of King Solomon. This week, we reflect on Solomon's important choice of the gift of wisdom. Together we consider the many leaders in our school (school council, peer mediators, playleaders, worship leaders, governors, teachers, Headteacher to name but some). Together we reflect on the decisions they make and how they make wise decisions.

Week 6 – This week, our penultimate week of the half term, we take time to reflect on how we as a school answer our Big Questions 'How do we act responsibly and think about the wisdom of our words and actions?' and 'How do we appreciate the wisdom of others?'. Using our 'windows, mirrors and doors' analogy, we consider the actions (doors) open to us as we look at our school (window) and reflect personally (mirror).

Week 7 - To conclude our collective worship theme, Rev Felicity shares the difficult decision King Solomon was faced with and how he used his gift of wisdom to draw out the truth. We reflect on how courage can be needed to act in a wise way, especially when the choice is difficult.

Our Church Community

As the first school in the Diocese of Ely and the County to be inspected under the new **Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)** framework in September 2023, we are delighted to report that

the judgement of the inspection is: the inspection findings indicate that Petersfield Church of England Aided Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Under the new Framework, the graded criteria previously used in SIAMS inspections have been removed, resulting in only two possible judgements. We are proud that our inspection returned the successful outcome for Petersfield. This is in full recognition of our commitment to our school vision and significant work since the last SIAMS inspection as we continue to strive to ensure all members of our school community 'live life to the full'. The SIAMS inspection report details the many, many strengths at Petersfield of which we are rightly very proud. Highlighted strengths include:

- The school is confident and courageous in living out its Christian vision for all to live life to the full. Leaders, including governors, make bold decisions which ensure its impact is felt.
- Committed leaders, including governors and staff know and understand the community the school serves. They work to ensure that pupils and their families are nurtured and supported. Links between the church, community and school are strong and mutually beneficial.
- The inclusive curriculum is designed so that all pupils can access learning. Pupils with additional needs, or who are vulnerable, receive bespoke support which enables them to flourish.
- Religious education (RE) is tailored to the needs of pupils and the context of the community. As a result, pupils enjoy learning about a range of world religions and worldviews, including Christianity. This teaches them to respect and value the views of others.
- Collective worship is an important element of school life. Worship leaders, including pupils, use it to promote the vision and values. This also develops pupils' and adults' spirituality and own worldviews.

Please see our [SIAMS report](#) and [letter to parents](#) for more information.

Dr Simon Hughes **visited our school on behalf of Ely Diocese** as did Claire Coulson, our EDRA.



Our **Great Gransden Show** entries both achieved 2nd prize! Thanks to Mrs Bonfield for supporting the children to create their entries.



We were pleased to participate in the Orwell church **Flower Festival** with our pupil-crafted, paper flowers.

Thank you to Rev Felicity for hosting our **Harvest Service**. Thank you to all the children for their donations to the local foodbank and the monetary donations to support Machemba School.



We were delighted to be invited to the **unveiling of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Montage** with Tom, a former Petersfield pupil, unveiling the plaque and reading some of his memories of the Jubilee.



Religious Education (RE)

We have launched our daily focus on Bible stories as a vehicle to increase religious literacy. The children have retold, acted out and explored a variety of stories from the Old Testament this half term.

Mrs Penrose met with Cambridgeshire RE Advisor Amanda Fitton to innovate with regard to how the Emmanuel Curriculum fits with the New Locally Agreed Syllabus, particularly with regards to chronology.

Mrs Penrose attended the Headteachers Conference at Ely where we considered the benefits of being active and equality.