

## Autumn 2 2022 Church webpage

### Collective Worship

Our collective worship this term, which continues to be planned in conjunction with Barrington School, has been punctuated by two visits to the local church. Rev Felicity hosted us in church for our Christingle and Nativity services in December. St Andrew's church was packed as family members, governors and all pupils attended. We also welcomed back Genr8 who presented the Christmas message of 'gifts' to the children in a fun and interactive way.

### Collective Worship Autumn 2 highlights

Week 1 -To start the new half term, we continue to focus on a verse from Proverbs, which encourages us all to add to our learning and get guidance. Together we have reflected on the support in place with managing feelings and behaviour and the children have responded to this through recording their own prayers and reflections.

Week 2 - This week we focus on remembrance and take time to reflect and think about this. We also continue our theme on Proverbs and link this to our school behaviour expectations of educational consequences.

Week 3 - We mark this week with a focus on interfaith week with how different faiths mark Remembrance. We also look at what bullying is and what it isn't.

Week 4 - This week we continue our theme on a verse from Proverbs, which encourages us all to add to our learning and get guidance. We link this to how we mix with our friends and how we interact positively with others.

Week 5 - As ever, GenR8 were enthusiastically welcomed as Collective Worship leaders on Monday they celebrated the 'Christmas gifts' we can offer. We begin our advent countdown, exploring the colour purple and advent crown in school as we continue to reflect on how our language and behaviour affects others.



Week 6 - This week we celebrated the Christingle in church. Year 6 pupils said: "We led our Christingle service yesterday. It was great seeing all of the lit Christingles. We felt special being chosen to represent the school. The songs were full of joy and being together in church was satisfying. We felt grateful." We also complete our theme on rights and responsibilities based on a verse from Proverbs which encourages us all to add to our learning and get guidance. We consider how our words and feelings affect others.



Week 7 - Even though school was closed due to snow, thanks to Covid silver-linings, we were all still all offered the chance to join in with a live service from Ely Cathedral. We also shared the story of how Mary and Joseph were refugees as they travelled across lands to safety.

Week 8 - We end the term with choral worship, as we continue to enjoy learning the Christmas hymns ready for our whole school Nativity service

and end of term Christmas celebrations to mark the birth of Jesus.

## Our Church Community

Despite some hard financial times nationally, our school community kindly donated shoeboxes to the shoebox appeal at Blythswood. Thanks to all children and parents who offered their love and hope to those beyond our neighbourhood. Do see their website for more information on this. <https://blythswood.org/shoeboxappeal/>

Our School Council again led the popular sponsored run. Everyone got to take part whilst raising funds for our partner school in Machemba.

The school gathered together to mark the 2 minutes' silence on Armistice Day. Yew class joined the local community service in the village. This was a very still and silent occasion, and pupils reflected on those affected by war in the past and today.



The Young'Uns are always a highlight of the Petersfield year and this visit lived up to our expectations. Together each class contributed to the Petersfield School Values Anthem. You can hear it by clicking [here](#) or by visiting the 'Music and History Projects' page under the curriculum drop down menu on our website.

We were delighted to be joined for a visit and lunchtime this half term by our Ely Diocese Regional Advisor who was accompanied on her visit by one of our Foundation Governors. Together, they talked to staff and pupils about many aspects of our church school including our vision and values, Collective Worship and RE at Petersfield. This pupil, governor and visitor voice forms and essential part of our regular cycle of evaluation and reflection. Both the EDRA and Foundation Governor complimented our pupils on how articulate they are.

Mrs Penrose and Mrs Chadwick joined other Headteachers at Ely Cathedral for the Diocese Headteachers' conference recently. Awe and wonder moments and spiritual development are opportunities that apply to adults just as much as children and this was very much the case as the conference began with a service in the cathedral including children from local schools singing.

Our Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development (SMSC) Policy was updated recently to better reflect our aims and practice in our church school. This policy, along with our RE and Collective Worship Policies which were also updated as part of our planned cycle of policy review, were discussed and approved by Governors at the meeting at the start of December. You can read these policies by clicking [here](#) or looking on our 'Policies' page under the 'School Information' drop down menu.



Whilst the snow closure prevented Sarah Conant, Ely Diocese Deputy Director of Education, from attending in person this term, thanks to technology, Mrs Penrose was still able to meet virtual to share our highlights from the autumn term and discuss the support in place from Diocese, including training and the upcoming capital funded project.

Our grateful thanks to FOPS for decorating the school for us this Christmas and to Mrs Bonfield for her Christmas story Christmas tree display.

As is traditional in Orwell, Petersfield again contributed to the Methodist Christmas Tree festival. Each child made a decoration, with the overall

theme for our tree being 'Emotions'. This reflects both our PSHE learning in school around building emotional literacy and our collective worship theme.

## Religious Education

Our RE leader has carried out RE curriculum monitoring this half term together with other senior leaders. A successful look at pupil RE books showed our 2 year curriculum is now embedded. Children are showing increasing knowledge and understanding of a range of religious concepts and are able to make connections in their 'Big Question' assessment tasks. Our EYFS children are developing their 'floor book' which captures their RE work through pictures, annotations of work and observations of children's development.

Thanks to a volunteer team from the church who are now able to meet again, our KS2 children experienced 'REactive' church for the first time in 3 years, before Covid. Ever adaptable, the treacherous ice and cold



conditions required a relocation to school and the members of the parish stepped up to the challenge of organising the resources and activities in school. The children engaged really well in the sessions which have been greatly missed. We are grateful to all the volunteers who support and enhance our RE provision.



In RE, our EYFS children consider the 'big question': 'Why to Christian's perform nativity plays at Christmas?' Ash and Elm class subsequently delighted the rest of the school and their parents, family and friends with their wonderful (in person and streamed) production of 'Barmy Bethlehem'. They filled us all with Christmas joy!

Mrs Penrose continues to contribute to the Agreed Syllabus Conference, which is in the final stages of planning the new Cambridgeshire RE Agreed Syllabus due in 2023. Edits and questions have been submitted towards the draft document, due to be launched next June.