



Collective Worship



w/c 21th January

Let's celebrate... diversity and working together

This week in collective worship we have focused on the importance of living in a diverse society and how crucial it is that we work well together.

Thought for the week

We are all unique and uniquely made in God's image and that is awesome! We need to be different so that we can use our different gifts and talents and work together. If we were all good at the same things, the world would come to a standstill! We need to make sure that we are embracing our diversity and differences and building each other up because of our differences and working well together. Think back to Mr Patrice's collective worship about the different jobs at the theatre and the different skill sets needed to make a successful show. Be proud of the things that make you unique and use them to work well with each other so that we can all celebrate success together.

From The Ashes

Children like us
Thrown into the fire
Of hatred.
It burnt them,
It took everything
Their hair
Their names
Their families
Their clothes
Their belongings

No matter how much hatred can burn
We have the ability to love
And love can start a fire too

A spark of a smile can turn into a steady glow of hope,
A steady glow of hope can turn into a flame of kindness
A flame that can burn down the walls of hatred,
A flame that can start an inferno of love.

But they were nothing more than children,
Children like you and me...
By Lillian 8P



This week in collective worship

Our theme of diversity and working together links well with Holocaust Memorial, which we have acknowledged this week in collective worship. Peter Breckwoldt visited and spoke to us about a very special book all about Jesus: the Bible. We heard some incredible statistics about how it has been translated into over 1200 languages; it contains 2500 prophecies; and a copy once sold for \$38million! Our students asked Peter some really thoughtful questions, and we were challenged to read Mark's gospel. On Wednesday, we wished those who celebrate it a Happy Lunar New Year and heard a bit about what the Lunar New Year is and where in the world this is celebrated in a big way.

A group of Year 8 students attended a Holocaust Memorial talk on Tuesday and they then prepared and led collective worship to the whole school that gave us a brief insight into what happened during the Holocaust. We heard about a Holocaust survivor, Yehuda Bacon, who at the age of 13 was sent to Auschwitz. As a talented artist, when the concentration camps were liberated and he was freed, he created artwork that told of the horrors he had lived; artwork that was used to convict a key orchestrator of the Holocaust. The message was loud and clear: we need to stand up to the injustices that we see in the world and stamp out discrimination. In class collective worship we have considered what the bible says about working together and how we need each other to live as God intended us to.

This week we have sung about 'Waiting for the world to change' - this starts with us, right here, right now. We can be the change we want to see and we can promote acceptance of difference and embrace the diversity that exists between us. By working together and celebrating our differences, we really can make the world we live in a better place, where we all flourish.

Pupil voice

'Being a diverse community is important and no one should be persecuted or treated badly because of any difference they have. We should learn to respect people who are different to us'

Heavenly Father,

Prayer for the week

Thank you for making us all unique. Please help us to celebrate our uniqueness and respect others for any differences between us.

We pray for peace for the areas of the world where conflict exists. We pray for our leaders, that they consider the impact of their decisions. We pray that we become a world community that ensures that terrible things like the Holocaust never happen again.

Amen

Each person uniquely made in God's image merits the best that we can give.

