



# Collective Worship

14th November

**Doors of opportunity...let's take the opportunity to remember**

**This week in collective worship we have been reflecting on remembrance and the importance of remembering**

## Thought for the week

Remembrance Day provides us with opportunities to think back and reflect on times when as a world community we have 'got it wrong'. We must ensure that we also use this time to 'think forward' and consider what we need to do and how we need to behave to work together better to avoid the conflicts that we see across the world all too often. We must do what we can to educate others so that we live in a community that is accepting of the diversity that exists between us - diversity of religion as well as diversity of heritage. Only when we are truly accepting of the people we are living amongst can we all truly flourish. Let's look for the doors of opportunity for all.

**Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid**

**John 14: 27**

'I enjoyed listening to Nick Butter and I have been inspired to be resilient - even when things go wrong, don't give up.'

**Pupil voice**

## This week in collective worship

On Sunday, we were very proud of a group of students who carried the school poppies down to the War Memorial and represented our school brilliantly. It was also nice to see many of our young people who attend a uniformed group attend the Remembrance Day Parade. We held a two minute silence on Tuesday with the rest of the country; our students again made us proud of the way they conducted themselves.

This week we have been making connections between remembrance and Inter Faith Week, and considering the fact that many wars have been started due to people not being understanding or accepting of other people's religious beliefs. In our RE lessons this week, we have also been reflecting on how we can break down the barriers of division that exist between some people of different faiths.

Nick the Vic visited this week and spoke to us about the way we see things and different perspectives, using clever images that can be interpreted in different ways. He reminded us that we have different perspectives and see each other in different ways. Nick told the story of Zaccheus - a man who wasn't particularly popular with the people - and how Jesus saw him from a different perspective, accepted him and helped him to live a life where he treated people more fairly.

We welcomed ultra marathon runner Nick Butter into school on Wednesday; he amazed us with stories from his world record-breaking achievements where he ran a marathon in every country in the world. We were utterly inspired by his determination and resilience when he faced the toughest of challenges, like breaking his ankle, being bitten by a dog and being mugged, but that didn't stop him from achieving what he wanted to. He gave us the advice to 'zoom out' and see things from a different perspective - when you go through something tough, it won't be for long and you need to see yourself on the other side of that challenge. He told us of the difficulties that he faced as a child and how through sheer determination as well as some hard work, he overcame those difficulties. He told us to do what we are passionate about!

We have taken the opportunities to reflect and remember this week, but also the opportunities to be inspired and to believe that we can achieve the things that we put our minds to if we really want to.

## Prayer for the week

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for giving us a time of remembrance so that we can reflect on sacrifices that have been made in the past. Please help us to not only be accepting of other people's differences, but to be a positive light in the world that works to stamp out hatred and darkness so that all people are able to live together in peace.

Amen

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

