

Collective Worship

28th November

Doors of opportunity...let's take the opportunity to spread hope

This week in collective worship we have been reflecting on how we can spread hope.

Thought for the week

With the excitement of Christmas just around the corner, we enter a time of Advent when we focus on the Christmas story. This week we are thinking specifically about the hope Mary and Joseph had for their baby - a baby that would be the Son of God. This reminds us of the importance of having hope through what can feel like times when there is no hope. If we stay positive and work together, we can build a culture of hope and look for the doors of opportunity that lead us towards a hopeful future where everyone is able to flourish.

This week in collective worship

This week in collective worship we have started to think ahead to Advent for the last 4 weeks of term. This week we started by thinking about not only the fears that Mary may have felt following her visit from Angel Gabriel, but also her hopes for the future and what that would be for her as the mother of Jesus. We reflected on the hopes that Mary and Joseph would have had on their journey to Bethlehem. We also considered the hopes of people across the world who are living in difficult situations.

We welcomed Mr Spatchett into school on Tuesday and he spoke to us about the COP30 environmental meeting that took place in Brazil. He shared some incredible artwork created by students across several South American countries. Each creation had an important message for world leaders: To become aware (and plant consciousness) today is to sow life tomorrow; The small things can make a big difference; It's in our hands to protect the planet; Care for the Earth with love because she is the home that gives us life; The Earth does not belong to us, we belong to the Earth. It is recognised that no country can solve the environmental challenges that we face alone; we must work together to spread hope that the world can be a better place. As an Eco School, we must seek to care for the planet and decrease the effects of climate change. 'We don't have a Planet B - we have to take care of the one we have.'

Praise was yet again a wonderful worship time where we sang to remind ourselves that 'there's a world outside our window' and we need to venture out into it! We also warmed up for our Carol Service!

After some beautiful piano playing by some of our incredibly talented pianists, Mr Taylor spoke to us about the hope of the prophets and the Convoy of Hope project giving hope (and an education) to many children living in the most deprived place in the world. People can be hope for others. We were reminded that we have the power to give hope to others but if we stay in our 'bubbles' we can't do that.

Stepping outside of our 'bubble' to encourage each other is a way of spreading hope: 'Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all the darkness.' We were challenged to give hope to others through our Reverse Advent Calendar.

One way that we have spread hope this week is in the sending off 76 Christmas shoeboxes to Bulgaria - what a fantastic response from our school community! Let's continue to open those doors of opportunity to give hope to others as we prepare for our Reverse Advent Calendar.

Hope is being able to see there is light despite all the darkness

Desmond Tutu

'I am going to buy some things for the Reverse Advent Calendar to give others hope at Christmas.'

Pupil voice

Prayer for the week

Heavenly Father,

Help us to consciously decide to choose the path of giving hope to others so that we are living our lives in a way that means we are thinking beyond ourselves. Help us be the light in a world that can at times very much feel like it is in darkness.

Amen

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