



Collective Worship



9th January

Which path will I take? The path to Epiphany

This week in collective worship we have been reflecting on the paths that lead us to seeing things in a new way.

Thought for the week

If you have an 'epiphany', it means that you suddenly realise something or something is revealed to you that you weren't previously aware of. The epiphany celebrated on 6th January is the revelation of the Messiah's birth. Jesus was revealed to the world. The significance of His birth was highlighted by the gifts the Wise Men gave Him: gold to signify His importance (the king of all kings); frankincense to signify His priestly role; and myrrh foreshadowing his humanity, death and resurrection.

Let us this week consider the significance of Christ's arrival on Earth and reflect upon the wisdom we can have in our own lives and the decisions we make.

'After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked,

"Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:1-2

'I liked learning about how different countries celebrate Epiphany; it was fun that we joined in with this. I have been inspired to focus more on giving things to the food bank.'

Pupil voice

This week in collective worship

This week in collective worship we have been reflecting on the two different meanings of 'epiphany'.

Mr Ayling spoke to us about the different paths that the wise men could have taken and the choices they had. They could have stayed looking for the sign that the Messiah had been born or they could have followed the star in front of them. They could have returned to Herod as requested or they could have paid attention to the dream telling them not to. The Wise Men chose the path that led them to Jesus and that path that led them to leaving the significant gifts with Him. We heard about the significance of Epiphany in some countries where they leave their shoes out for the Wise Men to fill. We left our shoes outside our classrooms and the next morning they were filled with delicious gifts! We were also reminded about the significance of 'chalking our doors' for the new year.

Vicar Suzanne led a beautiful worship where she explained to us the joy that the Wise Men would have felt in finding the new born Messiah and how they 'suddenly understood' the significance of His birth. We heard about how sometimes the world can be quite a dark and dangerous place with some people making decisions that have a negative impact, however, we can 'be the light' and we must always call out injustice and cruelty. We must walk the path to making the world a nicer place to live.

In class collective worship we have considered which paths lead us towards being the best version of ourselves; the paths that have a positive impact on others and the world around us; and the paths that help us to connect to the 'thing' that is bigger than us. As we tread the paths ahead of us, let's consider the paths that lead us to 'epiphany' - the paths that help us to see things in a new way and help us to be the best version of ourselves and ultimately help us to truly flourish.

Prayer for the week

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the gift of Epiphany and the Wise Men who helped your Son be revealed to the world. Help us to keep looking out for the paths that lead us to 'epiphany'.

Amen



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