



# Collective Worship



23rd January

## Which path will I take? The path to liberation

This week in collective worship we have been reflecting on the paths that lead us to being our best authentic selves.

## Thought for the week

What is stopping you from being your best, authentic self? How can you be free from these 'chains' that hold you back? Which character values can you develop so that you are not restricting yourself from achieving the things that you want to in your life? Our character says everything about us - it tells people who we are and who we want to be.

Achieving our goals and aspirations is down to us, but we will need to put in the hard work, be resilient when things don't go quite according to plan and believe that we can achieve the things we want to. Allow yourself to be free so that you can truly be the best version of yourself.

**Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom**

**2 Corinthians 3:17**

'Collective worship this week has made me think that I can be part of Matilda and has made my confidence grow.'



**Pupil voice**

## This week in collective worship

This week in collective worship we have been thinking about the path to liberation and the ways in which we can be free.

In class collective worship we have considered the right to be born free and equal and how it is our responsibility to ensure that we are using this right in the best way possible. We have considered whether the choices we make always help us to be our best selves. We heard the story of Moses and reflected on the paths he walked to help others to be liberated. We also heard about the story of the 'starfish thrower' who wanted to do their bit to make a difference and free the starfish; the small things that we might think are inconsequential do count! Mrs Thompson-Brown spoke to us about Martin Luther King Jr as it was Martin Luther King day on Monday. We reflected on the way he lived his life - very much influenced by Jesus - and considered the things in our lives that are perhaps 'chains' that hold us down and stop us from being our best authentic selves. We were challenged to stand against the injustices that we see and to speak out to look out for each other.

Skittles told us a story about an experience at Holne Park with a student who was on the high ropes course and was really scared. He explained how the student needed encouragement not to focus on his fears because that just makes them grow bigger, but to focus on the thing that is holding you and carrying you through. We were entertained by Mr Ayling having a rope tied around him to symbolise the things that hold us back and stop us from being our best selves. We were reminded of the story of Jesus and Peter walking on the water and how it was when Peter listened to the doubts in his mind that he started to sink. If he had stayed focused on Jesus, he would have been ok. If we keep looking up and focussing on Jesus, we can find freedom.

Praise was again a wonderful, joyful event; when we come together, sing and don't hold back, we can truly feel free in spirit!

Let's free ourselves from the things that hold us back and stop us from being our best selves; let's help each other to be free by accepting each other for who we are and being fully respectful so that we can all flourish.



## Prayer for the week

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the freedom that we have. Please help us to use that freedom wisely and to help others be free by showing empathy and compassion and helping them to feel accepted and part of our community. Help us to make choices that lead us to being the best version of ourselves.

Amen



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