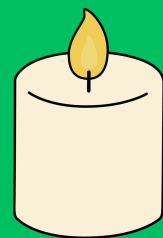




Collective Worship



6th February

Which path will I take?

The path to acceptance

This week in collective worship we have been reflecting on the paths that lead us to accepting who we are and accepting others for who they are.

Thought for the week

The path to acceptance may seem to you like such an obvious path to take, but as we saw from the Holocaust, the path to prejudice and discrimination is one that people do sadly choose, even today. Let's make sure that we choose to accept ourselves for who we are and accept those around us: those in our school community, wider community and world community so that we embrace and celebrate the uniqueness of others so everyone feels welcome and accepted. Let's choose the path to acceptance.

This week in collective worship

In class collective worship this week, we have reflected on accepting ourselves for who we are. On Monday, we heard about Candlemas and the celebration of the presentation of Jesus, the light of the world, in the temple. We were reminded to go out into the world and shine our lights for others to see.

Mr Ayling led a whole school collective worship where he explained to us how during his teacher training he spent some time at a school in Birmingham where there were very few Christians. He met a Science teacher there who was Sikhi and invited him to the gurdwara to find out more about his religion. Mr Ayling told us about the respectful practices inside the gurdwara and how highly respected the Guru Granth Sahib is. Mr Ayling felt welcomed and accepted and told us how he was told: 'We are all on the same journey (climbing the same mountain). We choose different paths but we are all going to the same place so why worry about the different journey.'

A group of our wonderful Year 8s led a Holocaust Memorial Talk following their trip to Parkstone Grammar School last week when they heard the story of Holocaust Survivor, Yehuda Bacon. The group told us some background information about what the Holocaust was and why it was allowed to happen. We were given a very clear message about acceptance and how important it is that we accept other people for their different beliefs so that we ensure that events like the Holocaust are never allowed to happen again. The school sang their hearts out during Praise as we reflected on the words: 'Say what you wanna say, And let the words fall out, Honestly I wanna see you be brave.' Reminding us that we have a voice and should be brave to speak out against any injustices that we see. KS2 STEM club led collective worship and spoke to us about opportunities in STEM through developing curiosity of the world and how it works. Let's make sure we take the paths that lead us to developing our spirituality so that we can all flourish.

'Therefore accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.'

Romans 15:7

'Don't put people in boxes or label them - you don't need to sort people because we are all climbing the same mountain, it doesn't matter which path we take.'

Pupil voice

Prayer for the week

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for making each and every one of us unique; help us to cherish our uniqueness and celebrate the differences between us so that we can all live well together and truly flourish. Help us to have the courage and confidence to shine our light out into the world.

Amen

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

