



Collective Worship



20th March

The journey of forgiveness

This week in collective worship we have been reflecting on the power of being forgiving.

Thought for the week

To be able to forgive shows real strength of character - no one is saying it is always easy to forgive someone for the wrongs they have done to you, but surely it is better to educate and free yourself from the burden that bitterness weighs on our shoulders? Surely it is better to walk more freely and direct our time and energies into more positive ways of thinking? If we can forgive, just as we are forgiven, then perhaps we can be liberated, live better together and be the best version of ourselves? The journey of forgiveness is a journey well worth taking.

'Put up with each other. Forgive each other if you are holding something against someone. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you.'
Colossians 3:13

'It's not what you look like that is important, but what your heart is like; it is more important to be kind!'

Pupil voice

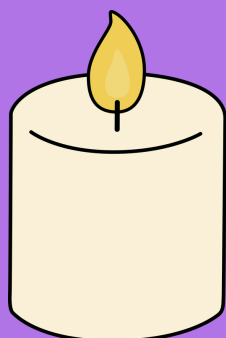
This week in collective worship

This week we have been thinking about how forgiveness is a gift - a gift for the person we are forgiving but also a gift for ourselves as when we forgive, we are unburdening ourselves from the hurt that weighs us down. In class collective worship we saw how liberating forgiving someone can be. We reflected on the story that Jesus told about the Prodigal Son who behaved terribly and insulted his father in the worst possible way, but his father still forgave him. In the same way, when we turn to God and are truly sorry for the things we do that are wrong, we are forgiven. We considered Nelson Mandela's story and what he suffered when he dared to stand up against injustice, but he was still able to forgive the people who treated him badly, reminding us of the power of resilience and forgiveness. As it was International Day of Happiness, we considered how we might be able to use the gift of forgiveness to make someone happy. On Tuesday, we welcomed Lucy from the charity Restless Development to talk to us about an exciting opportunity to take part in a triathlon event in a few weeks' time to raise money for 'The Young Gamechangers Fund' that funds and mentors young people who are working on inspiring projects in their communities in the UK as well as projects supporting disadvantaged students across the world. We strongly encourage as many students to get involved as possible!

Praise was, as always, a wonderful joyous event led by our incredibly talented school band and our incredibly talented Mrs Martin-Papp! We were delighted to welcome Mrs Stuart and a Year 5 student to speak to the school about the importance of our uniqueness. Mrs Stuart spoke to us about Downs Syndrome and our own student spoke to us about living with epilepsy. We recognise the importance of educating others about things they might not understand so that we can all be accepting of each other's differences, look after each other and ultimately live well together in a way that enables everyone to flourish.

Prayer for the week

Heavenly Father,
Help us to be more forgiving when people do things that hurt us. Help us to see how not forgiving someone can become like a heavy rock we carry around with us that actually causes more damage. Help me to have the strength to ask for forgiveness when I get things wrong and help me to forgive myself.
Amen



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