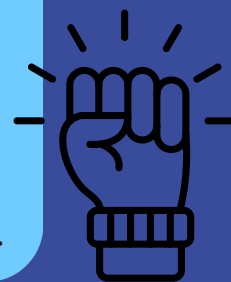


With the help of God, are flourishing together in faith, courage and love'



Collective Worship

16th October



Let's flourish together...and be courageous

Thought for the week

It is crucial that we build our courage so that we are able to stand up to the injustices that we see and call them out. Where would we be today if no one ever did this? We must have the courage to do the things that others don't seem to be doing, if it is the right thing to do. When people are being unkind, ignoring someone, poking them in the corridor, have the courage to call it out! Let's build a school community where we are all courageous to do what is morally right so that everyone is able to be their best and flourish.

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

"Collective worship has made me want to try more new things, take more chances and stand up for what is right even if it might be unpopular."

Pupil voice

This week in collective worship

Courage has been the theme of the week and we have been thinking about the different ways in which we can be brave.

In class collective worship, we have reflected on what it means to be courageous and when we need to be courageous. We heard about how God gave David the courage to defeat Goliath and how many people of faith also draw courage from God. As October is Black History Month, we will be having a particular focus on people throughout history who have fought against prejudice and discrimination.

We heard about the risks Harriet Tubman took to act out against injustice and help others to do so too, ultimately helping around 800 people to freedom, believing that her instincts were direct guidance from God, giving her supernatural calm in terrifying situations. We also heard about Katherine

Johnson (an incredible mathematician who worked for NASA and was instrumental in calculations to enable Apollo 11 to land on the Moon) who spoke out against the unjust treatment she received as a black woman in 1960s USA.

Mrs Thompson-Brown spoke to us about the courage of St Michael, the protector, and how he represents the triumph of love over evil. We were reminded of the courage that Jesus showed in the way He treated people that no one else was interested in; He flipped the tables in the temple to speak out against unholy behaviour; He called the Pharisees out on their hypocritical behaviour. We were challenged to do the things that scare us, to stand up for our values even when it might be an unpopular thing to do and to reach out to others to encourage them when they are struggling. We watched an amusing video clip demonstrating the power of doing the things that scare us and how we can get so much out of those experiences.

We welcomed John S to speak to us about the background to the Bible passage that our new Vision is based on. We heard about how Paul was originally called Saul and how he persecuted Christians before he was blinded by a light and changed his ways (and his name). We heard about how the passage comes from a letter that Paul wrote to Christians in Corinth. We heard about different types of love and different types of courage and also a lovely prayer by Saint Francis. We have been inspired to be courageous - in a variety of different ways - and to show love to those around us so that we can live well together in the St Michael's School community.

Prayer for the week

Heavenly Father,
Help us to be courageous. Help us to create a culture of kindness and courage where we are all looking out for each other and thinking of each other's needs to ensure that everybody is able to be their best selves and flourish.
Amen

