

ROBERT PIGGOTT CE SCHOOLS

Grace, Courage, Friendship

Our School Vision

Our vision is rooted in the understanding that 'A tree is known by its fruits.' (Matthew 12:33) We are committed to nurturing our children to flourish in mind, body and spirit, enabling them to become confident, creative and resilient learners who contribute positively to our local and global community.



Collective Worship Policy

Committee Responsible: Personnel

Date of Review: November 2022

Next Review: November 2024

Introduction

Collective worship is central to the life of our school. Worship offers the children and others in our school an opportunity to reflect on values and issues in the context of our Christian ethos. It reflects the mission statement and shapes our approach to others and to what we do in school.

“A tree is known by its’ fruits” Matthew 12:33

Our collective worship provides the pupils and staff the opportunity to:

- Worship God;
- Experience a variety of styles of worship;
- Celebrate school values, Christian festivals, achievements;
- Value other faiths especially those represented in our school;
- Grow in understanding of a participation in prayer;
- Develop a reflective approach to life and reflect of Christian values;
- Develop as a community based on Christian values;
- Participate in the planning, leading, presentation and evaluation of worship;
- Feel safe and affirmed.

Planning Collective Worship

We hold a daily act of collective worship which will include a prayer and may take many forms. For example, joining together through music, song, dance, drama, words of praise, prayers, readings and teachings, in listening, in thoughtful silence, in meditation, in contemplation of icons and symbols and in the lighting of candles.

We conduct collective worship in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that worship time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teachings and participate fully in prayer and hymns. We create an appropriate atmosphere by

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using music and sometimes candles or other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children.

Prayer is a vital part of our worship. The words we use invite but do not coerce children to participate. We address our prayers to Jesus and God reflecting the practices of the Church of England. Children are encouraged to reflect on the important messages shared in our worship time.

We review worship through regular discussion with the whole school community including governors and the local clergy and our evaluations are fed into planning for future worship.

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The pattern of our Collective Worship

We encourage children to become actively involved in Collective Worship. This may involve setting up, planning, leading prayers, choosing worship songs etc.

The Executive Headteacher, Head of School, other members of staff or children themselves may conduct collective worship. Members of the local clergy visit school on a regular basis and strengthen the links between school and church. Other visitors are welcomed warmly.

Our worship follows themes in the following areas each term and is linked to the RE Unit of Work and the values of the school. We use “Roots and Fruits” to help us plan sequences of worship.

- Our school values of Grace, Courage and Friendship
- Festivals of the Church calendar
- Praise, Psalms and Prayer
- Creation
- Bible stories
- Stories and themes from Judaism and other world faiths
- Symbolism
- Organisations inspired by faith
- Themes reflecting children’s experience and emotions
- Celebrations

We invite parents and other family members to collective worship on a regular basis e.g. Harvest, Christingle, Easter and end of year.

We usually come together in worship in our school hall, but for some special occasions we hold services at St Mary’s Church, in the school grounds or at Mumbery Hill.

Organisation

Our worship is usually as follows:

Infants:

Monday	Whole school worship led by Head of School
Tuesday	Singing
Wednesday	Class worship
Thursday	Whole school worship led by a clergy member
Friday	Celebration (whole school birthdays, achievements & reflection)

Juniors:

Monday	Whole school worship led by Head of school
Tuesday	Singing
Wednesday	Class worship
Thursday	Whole school worship led by a clergy member
Friday	Celebration (whole school birthdays, achievements and reflection)

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Collaboration

The Infant and Junior schools work together to provide consistent and relevant Collective Worship. The schools work from a joint Collective Worship framework which includes ideas for PSHE within the class worship sessions. The schools collaborate on special projects, combining RE and CW.

Right of Withdrawal

We expect all children to attend Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

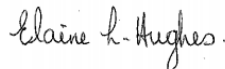
The staff are always happy to spend time with parents describing our approach and showing them records of the range of experiences we offer.

Signed: Senior Leadership Team

Executive Headteacher



Vanessa O'Byrne



Elaine Hughes