



Bisley C of E Primary School

Everyone Successful Everyday

Bisley Basics: Collective Worship



As a church school, Collective Worship is integral in our school life. We hold **daily acts of worship**; this may be as a whole school or in the classroom. We recognise that in asking our children to worship we have to consider the background that our children come from and it is therefore not the practice of this school to preach to or convert the children. Collective Worship at Bisley CofE Primary is first and foremost for the educational and spiritual benefit of its pupils. It is a shared activity, which allows a variety of responses. It is an inclusive activity, which builds with the broad dimensions of the curriculum. The creation of atmosphere is assisted by appropriate music, visual foci and symbols. Opportunity for reflection and responses, prayer, story, drama and art are also used to appeal to the pupils' imagination.

We believe that collective worship both **supports and strengthens** what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. Our caring ethos, and the value which we place on the development of the whole child; spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually is reflected in our worship. We value this special time in the school day for the space it gives children to develop a **reflective approach to life** and the ability to express their reflections in traditionally religious ways or any other appropriate manner.

Our Collective Worship Week looks as follows:

- Mondays are led by **Open the Book**, a visiting group associated with the church that will deliver a passage from the Bible through drama and song. This is led by a member of SLT
- Tuesdays work on a fortnightly rota. The local vicar, or representative from the church, will deliver an act of worship that is pertinent to life at that time. On other weeks, a **values-based act of worship** is delivered based on the four core Gospel values of the school (love, hope, courage, respect) and children will nominate their peers to receive a values' leaf for our tree. These acts of worship are delivered by members of staff on a bi-annual cycle
- Wednesdays are held **in class** and will either link to the messages delivered on Monday / Tuesday or might be based on something topical if that is more appropriate
- Thursdays are led by the Headteacher and Choir Leads as a singing assembly called **Kids Praise**. Songs introduced and practised may be either modern or traditional, mostly praise related with some topical songs for certain times of year
- Fridays are **whole school celebration assemblies** where children are rewarded for achievements and efforts both in school and out of school. Many children choose to have their achievements displayed on the Chance to Shine board (staff are welcome to do this too!)

Class assemblies

Each class (Y1-Y6) is invited to hold 2 assemblies per year to showcase and share their current learning. Parents and related volunteers are invited to these assemblies which give the children the chance to perform in front of a wider audience of invited adults and the whole school.

Each assembly starts with the offering of **Peace** and ends with either the **school prayer** or the **Lord's prayer**.

Staff non-contact time

We appreciate the need for staff to have some time during the school day set aside for planning and preparation. We also recognise the value of the whole school, including staff being involved in our school worship; this takes place on Tuesdays and Fridays during celebration assembly where all staff and pupils come together for assembly. During the Monday assembly staff have the opportunity to meet with the headteacher to set the scene for the week. Staff also receive some additional time together in teams during Kids Praise if this is appropriate.

Expectations of conduct

Every member of the assembly is expected to follow high expectation set – as this is a time of reflection is it expected that everyone is quiet and does not engage in conversation. It is highly important that staff model this to the children. Staff are expected to participate in the same way as children by joining in the singing and actions to certain songs. All staff are expected to attend every act of worship unless it falls in their non-contact time.