

Monitoring Collective Worship

Monitoring of Collective Worship		
Leader	Mrs Bandara and Worship Leaders	
Date	22.06.2021	
Worship observed by:	Rebekah Bailey	
Worship Style	Multimedia	
Value	All	
Venue	Outside in prayer garden	
<p>Context:</p> <p>Collective Worship has changed significantly due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During lockdown, Collective Worship was shared once a week via the school website. The structure of Collective Worship in school was kept the same for consistency for the children, just shared virtually. This included invitation to worship using lighting the candle and same school phrases, liturgical greeting, focus on school vision, values and linked bible stories, music and songs of praise, prayer and benediction and dismissal used. Children were able to access the worship page from home and children who were attending school accessed it in class. Click here to view Collective Worship in lockdown page on the school website.</p> <p>Since returning to school, Collective Worship still needs to be held in Year group 'bubbles' rather than as a whole school due to government guidelines, however the school meet once a week, virtually, for Celebration and Vision worship on a Friday. We began meeting as a whole school, daily for Collective Worship virtually, but this quickly became apparent that the worship was not having as much impact on the children of this age compared to being in person, so we moved to year group bubble worship face-to-face rather than virtual worship on a screen. Staff also reported that worship in their year group as opposed to whole school was having a greater impact on their children as they could tailor the worship specifically to their age and needs. Worship for children in reception can be very different to children in Year 2. This is something we will look into keeping post COVID-19 guidance.</p> <p>This monitoring was conducted to assess the impact of worship during lockdown, via pupil conferencing led by the RE Lead and the Worship Leaders. Children asked questions of each other and this was recorded in a video format to share.</p>		
Invitation to worship?	Children were able to talk about being invited to worship. They talked about lighting the candle to invite them to worship and how it is a special time. They talked about using sign language to communicate with people who cannot hear. Children did not mention the liturgical greeting – 'The Lord be with you' and the response 'and also with you'.	
Invitational? Inclusive? Inspiring?	<p>Gather: <i>(We gather together to meet with each other; We all come to play a part in this community; We are preparing to meet God.)</i></p> <p>They talked about using sign language to communicate with people who cannot hear. Children talked about it being a special time to talk to God and pray. Children talked about learning about values stories and were able to name them all. They talked about believing in themselves and each other knowing that with God they can face any challenge. This was a strong link to the school vision and showed the understanding behind it.</p> <p>Children were asked specifically about lockdown worship. They talked about the videos shared and seeing Mrs Bailey in the hall and lighting the candle. Children mentioned that it made them feel happy, while they felt sad at home not being able to be in school.</p>	<p>Check list: Altar table out, Bible and candle, props for the act of worship. Calm atmosphere created? Music on, focal image up. Share a bidding prayer or greeting Light the candle</p>
	<p>Engage: <i>(We engage with the big things and the little things in life; We encounter Jesus and the stories of the Bible; We are listening for God's message for us.)</i></p> <p>Children talked about accessing the videos at home and joining in with the lockdown worship. They were able to talk about specific stories that were shared virtually and linked them to values. Children spoke about receiving praise cards linked to the values which they said helped them with their lockdown learning.</p>	

	<p>Children spoke about values and bible stories shared in worship in school and could talk about what it taught them. Such as the Lost Sheep, teaches about perseverance.</p> <p>Children spoke about when they showed a Christian value with an example, such as showing the value of love when helping a friend complete a sentence. Children spoke about forgiving friends and siblings. This was shared through lockdown examples and in school.</p>	
	<p>Respond: <i>(We have responded to what we have heard and seen; We respond together as individuals; We are given the opportunities to worship God.)</i></p> <p>Children were able to talk about work they completed at home that followed and responded to worship. Children used the values language when talking about lockdown learning. Children were able to talk about the values characters and shared which values were the most important to them. They also shared examples of parables that explored the linked value. Children spoke about praying as talking to God. They mentioned the prayer stems we use in school, not by calling them prayer stems, but by describing the types of prayer, although not all four were discussed. Some children talked about Collective worship being a time to communicate with God and Him communicating with them. This implied knowing that the relationship with God is a two-way relationship.</p>	<p>Check list: Opportunity to respond – discuss, question, think. Reflection time (silence, stillness) Listen to a piece of music to reflect on. Prayer time</p>
	<p>Send: <i>(We are sending out to love and serve one another and to make a difference in the world; We are all sent out with God's blessing.)</i></p> <p>Children spoke about their roles as Worship Leaders as being role models to others modelling the Christian Values. Children were able to share the school vision and sign it.</p>	<p>Check list: Blow candle out. Send the school community out with a thought or action. Share a sending prayer / blessing as the children leave.</p>
<p>Glow comments</p> <p>Children knew about the worship shared virtually during lockdown and could talk about specific examples. Some children could explain how the worship helped them. Children are very secure with the values characters, their linked stories and bible stories. Children have a good understanding that worship is invitational. They could sign the vision and understood why we use BSL.</p>		
<p>Grow comments:</p> <p>Ensure children know the four types of prayer.</p> <p>Continue work on Chat and Catch to ensure children understand that prayer is a two-way conversation.</p> <p>Children could explain what the vision was, they understood and could articulate about believing in themselves, each other and in themselves. They understood how the parable of the talents links to this, but this needs further work to understand the linked bible quote 'for with God, nothing is impossible.' Luke 1:37 to ensure the understanding of having high aspirations and aiming high.</p>		