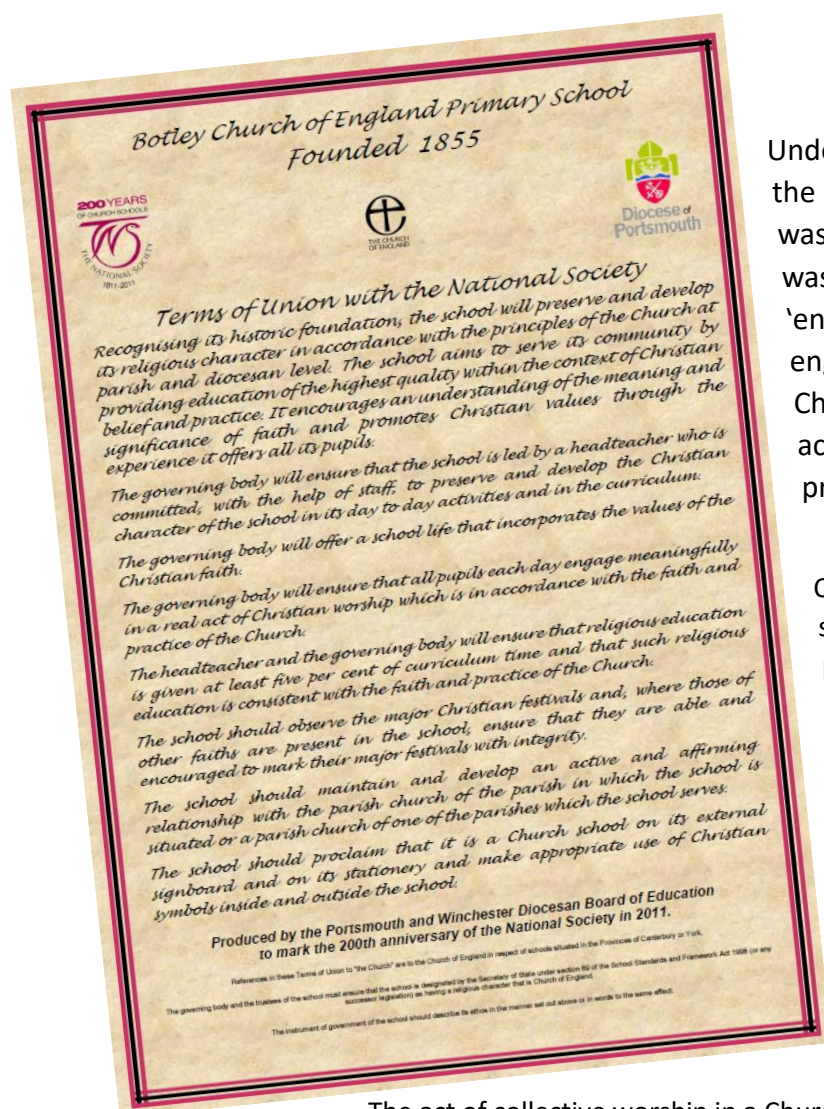


Collective Worship at Botley C of E Primary School



Under the school's Terms of Union with the National Society when the school was founded in 1855, the expectation was set that the governing body will, 'ensure that all pupils each day engage meaningfully in a real act of Christian worship which is in accordance with the faith and practice of the Church.'

Collective worship in community schools is grounded in the historical past and enshrined in educational law in the Education Reform Act of 1988 which states it should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. In Church schools such as ours, the requirement is to reflect the Anglican status of the school as expressed in its trust deed and to build on the rich, lived diversity of Anglican tradition and identity through collective worship.

The act of collective worship in a Church school is educational and inclusive in its nature, rather than being a gathering of believers. Opportunities should be provided for children to offer worship to God, through Jesus Christ, without losing sight of either the different starting points of each of the children. Collective worship should be inclusive, invitational and inspiring.

There are a range of aims for Collective Worship in our school:

- Developing spirituality
- Developing character through our school Christian heart values
- Putting our Christian ethos at the heart of our school – a celebration of the school's identity
- Developing an understanding of the cycle of the Church year – a sense of shared tradition
- Promoting respect and tolerance
- Celebrating what is of ultimate worth in our lives (which Christians call, 'God')

- A time where we can retell the Christian story and be transformed by it
- Developing an understanding of Jesus and the Christian understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- A time for reflection or prayer

Collective worship at this school contains four key elements: gathering, engaging, responding and sending.

Gathering is making worship a special part of the day through simple symbol and ceremony
Engaging is stimulating interest in the theme or content.

Responding is ensuring that there is time for the children to reflect on the theme and make a response.

Sending is summarising the worship and create an opportunity for those present to implement the ideas discussed.

Collective worship is usually undertaken as a whole school in the hall but can also be undertaken in the classroom or even outside at times! The hall contains a worship table which is decorated in the appropriate liturgical colours. Each week there is a different theme for our worship and will be carried out by a range of staff, including the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher. Revd. Gregg will regularly visit from All Saints Church to lead us in our Collective Worship and our friends from Kings Community Church in Hedge End also visit us.



Examples of themes from the Autumn Term:

Week 1	New Beginnings	Week 8	Friendship
Week 2	Courage	Week 9	Remembrance
Week 3	Compassion	Week 10	Thankfulness
Week 4	Faith	Week 11	Understanding
Week 5	Harvest	Week 12	Advent
Week 6	Joy	Week 13	Resilience
Week 7	Peace	Week 14	Christmas

The different types of worship are:

- Monday – Whole School Worship (Headteacher)
- Tuesday – Whole School Singing Worship
- Wednesday – Whole School Worship (SLT)
- Thursday – Whole School Worship (Teachers)
- Friday – Values Celebration Worship

