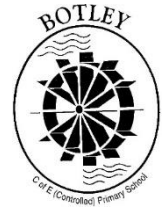


# **Botley C of E Primary School** **Celebrating Our Christian Character** **in the Spring Term**



As we come to the end of a joyful and enriching Spring term, we would like to reflect upon and celebrate the many ways in which our school's Christian character has shone through the life of our community.

Rooted in our shared vision and guided by our ethos underpinned by Christianity and the teaching's of Jesus, this term has been a wonderful reflection of our heart values: courage, stewardship and respect.

## **Living Our Heart Values**

Throughout the term, our pupils have demonstrated courage in their learning—embracing challenges, persevering through difficulties and growing in confidence. From trying new skills in the classroom to speaking in worship, we have been incredibly proud of their determination and resilience. This has especially been seen in British Science Day, the Spring Music Concert and the Year 3/4 children preparing for their Easter celebration performance.

Our value of stewardship has been evident in the way children have cared for our school environment and the wider world. Whether through looking after shared spaces, tending the school gardens, litter picking or reflecting on how we can serve others, pupils have shown a growing understanding of their responsibility as caretakers of God's creation.

Respect continues to be at the heart of all we do. Pupils have shown kindness, empathy and consideration for one another, building a community where everyone feels valued and supported. This has been especially evident during collaborative work, breaktimes and collective worship, as well on school trips to Longdown Dairy Farm and the Sea City Museum where employees have commented on the children's fantastic behaviour.

## **Worship and Church Links**

Our close relationship with All Saints' Church remains a treasured part of school life and continues to grow even stronger.

Revd. Gregg is such an important member of our school community. He is regularly in school leading worship and working with children who love to see him and listen to his teachings. He also does a huge amount of unseen work for our school community. Liaising closely with Mrs Thomson, he has been able to support families when they are in need and ensure that their needs are met. A huge thank you must go to the Curdridge and Botley Trust, a fantastic charity that support Gregg to help the families in this local community.

The Singing Squad performed wonderfully at the service on Mothering Sunday and it was lovely that the church was full to hear them. When they perform at the church it becomes a really special service in the church filled with members of our school community.

We love having the opportunity to take the whole school over to the church for our school services during the year. The children thoroughly enjoyed our Easter service this term and having the opportunity to experience being in the church with their friends and peers. As always, we are grateful to the parents who volunteer to support us in getting all of the children over to the church.

We have planned for all year groups to go over and visit the Church as part of their curriculum time during over this year. Year 3/4 went over in preparation for their Easter

performance. It is great that we have the church as a resource to support the children in their Religious Education.

We also continue to value the time spent in school by Chrissy, our School Pastor. She spends time in school every week through the support of St. John's Church in Hedge End, working with children and adults alike and being a support and there to listen and talk.

## **Celebrating Easter**

A highlight of the term was our school Easter production by Year 3/4. We took a different approach this year to put on a full performance and this certainly paid off. Every child worked hard and played an important role be that on stage, as part of the chorus or undertaking the technical elements such as music and lights. The performance made clear the Easter message which sits at the heart of the Christian faith, of hope, love and new life. Thank you to all of the adults that support the children in putting together a wonderful production.

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son..."*

**John 3:16**

*"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said."*

**Matthew 28:6**

## **A Joyful Eid Mubarak**

We would like to wish a joyful **Eid Mubarak** to all members of our school community who are celebrating this special time. Eid is an important festival in Islam, marking a time of gratitude, generosity and togetherness, following the holy month of Ramadan. As an inclusive Christian school, we value and celebrate the richness and diversity of our community, and we take this opportunity to reflect on the shared values between faiths—kindness, compassion and care for others. We hope this was a time filled with peace, joy and celebration with family and friends and thank you for the kind gifts brought into school and shared.

## **A Term to Be Thankful For**

We give thanks for a Spring term filled with growth, joy and God's many blessings. We are grateful for the opportunities to learn, to worship together, and to live out our values of courage, stewardship and respect in our daily lives.

We would like to thank our children, staff, families, governors and church community for their continued support. Together, we look forward to the remainder of the year ahead, as we continue to live out our faith and values each day.

*"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*

**1 Thessalonians 5:18**

## **Our Christian Vision for Botley C of E Primary School**

At this school everyone will walk faithfully alongside God as our shepherd. Through the core Christian values of respect, courage and stewardship, we aim to ensure that our school is a place in which everyone achieves, is supported, cared for and feels loved, safe and secure.

Relationships will be positive, enriching and enabling and there will be a core focus on looking after each other, our school, our wider community and God's world. We will work together, as a whole school community, committed to ensuring success for all and that everyone is in a position whereby they are able to flourish.



All members of our inclusive community will recognise and value our Christian heart ethos values that scaffold and underpin what we will do in our school.