



RAISING THE PROFILE OF CHRISTIANITY: CREATIVE PROJECTS IN OUR SCHOOL



Whilst we firmly believe in the importance of Christian values being integral within our school day, we also believe that it is important that Christianity is also explicit, visual and creative. We enjoy a range of projects, with Christianity as their focus.

DAY 10- CHRISTIAN SYMBOLISM

In this Day 10 unit we wanted to focus on the importance of Christian symbols. Each teacher planned creative activities that would explain, and add meaning to, six important Christian symbols- the Lamb, Light, the Fish, the Trinity, the Dove and the Cross.

The learning was creative and practical, with Art, drama and music activities that enabled our children to increase their understanding in a meaningful way. Our work was featured in the diocese newsletter and will continue to have an impact for our children into the future. We have a huge stained glass cross in the hall, designed and made by our children; we have beautiful displays of doves and we have learnt songs that we will continue to sing in assemblies.

What the children said...

"I think it [the cross] looks so beautiful, especially when the light shines through it. It makes coloured patterns on the floor. It makes me feel happy and peaceful and I think it looks like a church window."

"My favourite is the doves. They are for hope and peace and I feel peaceful when I look at them. The doves all match even though they are different. That's like the children at school, isn't it?"

"I liked doing the acting. I was a shepherd and I looked for my lost sheep. I won't forget that story now, and I will try to look after all my friends."



At the end of this unit, each class took ownership of a Christian symbol. In Reception, the class symbol is the Dove and in Year 1 and 2 it is the Fish. Year 3 and 4 have ownership of Light, and Year 5 and 6 have the Trinity as their special symbol.

DAY 10- MULTI-FAITH

During the multi-faith unit, the children learnt more about Christianity by exploring the church of St Andrew's. They had the opportunity to explore the church as a building as well as a place of worship. They looked for lots of details within the building and had fun completing a treasure trail around the church, learning more about the key features of the church, the art within the church and many other details that make our local church unique. Our creative studies of other faiths also encouraged all children to value and celebrate the beliefs of others and to look for common values.

We believe that all of our Day 10 units have a strong Christian focus as they encourage our children to work together, help each other and achieve great things through team-work. Every Day 10 unit establishes a strong sense of community, within our school and beyond.

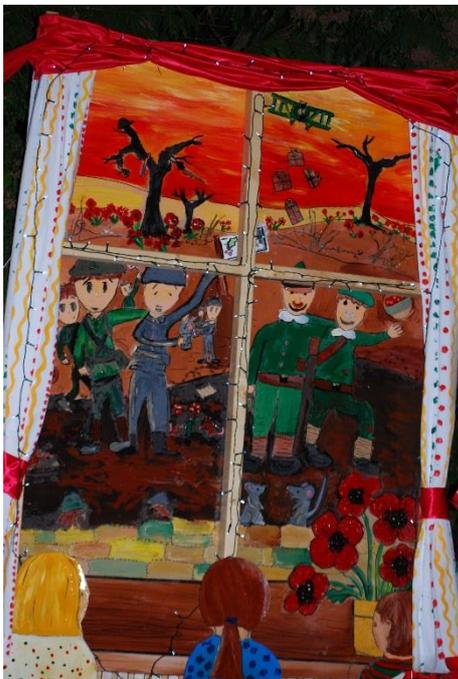
ADVENT WINDOWS-COMMUNITY PROJECT

The Advent window project was set up by the village of Brigstock to deepen community spirit and encourage the whole village to work together and support one another. Our school has been proud to be involved. Mrs Ettridge's Art Club has led the project which has included contributions from all staff and children. Our windows have had a community and Christian focus, and the children have presented each window at an open-air assembly, attended by the whole village.

More details can be found on the village facebook page, and the Advent Window has a specific facebook page in the run-up to Christmas.

CHRISTMAS TRUCE, NATIVITY SCENE, STICK TREE...

AMAZING CREATIVITY...



The PFA provide refreshments on the night and the school and village communities join together in a Christmas celebration.

CHRISTMAS- THE NATIVITY

All of our children share the Christmas story in a range of ways; in RE lessons, in worship assemblies and in story-writing sessions. We try to give real meaning and relevance to Christmas, and we focus on the special story of the first Christmas with the whole school. Our youngest children perform a very traditional nativity, both in the school hall and in the church. The wider school and village communities join with us in these special celebrations.

REMEMBERING EASTER

Our school remembers Easter with a range of very special traditions; we begin with pancake racing on Shrove Tuesday with the whole school joining together. As we approach Easter, we write versions of the Easter story, create Easter gardens and join together for egg decorating and rolling. At Easter-time we have assemblies at school and a quiet reflective service in the church, led by the vicar.

CHARITY EVENTS

Throughout the school year we have a strong focus on raising money for charity and supporting those less fortunate than ourselves. Our children often take the lead in organising events that will raise money, and the school and church councils have shown so much initiative in their approach to raising money. Staff encourage children in this approach and we work together to organise a range of charity events throughout the year.



Some charities are supported every year. We have an ongoing commitment to sponsor Harriet Auma through the 'One Day at a Time' charity. She writes to us regularly and has now attended school for over 4 years thanks to money sent from the school.

We also support NSPCC, Children in Need, the Royal British Legion and Red Nose Day.

As well as this, we show our support for national and international crises and we have raised money for refugees, Nepal earthquake victims, to name but a few. We encourage the children to think about causes that need our support, and ways to increase awareness in our wider community.

Every year we help to maintain awareness of our brave soldiers and we work with our local community as Remembrance Day approaches.

We provide a visual contribution to remembering the bravery of all soldiers, past and present. We write prayers for them and also remember the important people that are all around us in our daily lives.

