

Worship Council Report 2018/2019

Worship Council was formed in June 2018. Revd Fiona Crocker was asked to do this by Mrs Becky Harris. Under her guidance, Fiona met with the first group of school representatives in June 2018. With this new venture, it was decided that the pupils would be chosen by the staff for the first year and taken from Years 3, 4, 5, and 6. It will be hoped that in the next round of representatives, class members will choose their own representatives. Regular minutes are sent to the Head and dialogue comes from the Head, staff and governors back to the Worship Council.

Our aim is to help staff and pupils to reflect and enjoy our Collective Worship; to manage feedback for our Collective Worship from all; to look at our Christian Distinctiveness as a school and to choose and evaluate core school values; to plan a creative, beautiful Spiritual space either inside or outside the school building.

Our remit was

- 2 pupils from Yr 3,4,5,6 (juniors)
- Pupils chosen, at first, by teachers (Becky to ask staff at end of May)
- Pupils to wear a 'worship council badge' (Becky to buy)
- Meet every half-term with Revd Fiona to look at areas of responsibility
- Meet in library on Thursdays 1:10pm -2:10pm, first date 21st June
- Minutes / aims for Worship Council to be included on the school website and given to Headteacher/ Governors.

Areas of Responsibility

- Take a regular tour around the school and see what makes the school 'distinctively Christian'
- Take photos of Worship / Spirituality in school and keep in Scrap book (Becky to buy)
- Become increasingly involved in Collective Worship
- Revision of the school values and assess regularly how the values are embedded in the school
- Develop / design Spirituality / Prayer Space in school eg a prayer trail,
- Discover if there are other worship councils locally, and meet up with them.

It was agreed that the Worship Council will have their own display board and photos were taken so that the school were aware of the members. We have met fairly regularly discussing how Cam Hopton is distinctively Christian. Our first task was to look at the 12 school values currently underpinning the school and Collective Worship and then decide on which we thought would be our top 6. This produced lively debate and we struggled to reduce them to 6. Our 7 values which we agreed upon were then given to the Headteacher and governors to discuss. This felt like the Worship Council was very much involved in the shaping at the heart of school strategy and was encouraging and inspiring for the pupils.

The Worship Council were keen to plan and lead a Collective Worship and did this in July, based on the The Lost Sheep. They also see their role as assessing and providing feedback for Collective Worships. They have all been shown how to do this and feedback forms are kept in the office for them to attend to this. Those who lead Collective Worship need to be on their toes, they are harsh critics! Sung worship is clearly important to the Worship Council and their enjoyment of a previous visit from isingPOP led to a request that isingPOP came again. With the Worship Council's endorsement, Revd Fiona arranged for this to happen with the help from local charities to help fund

it. It was enjoyed by the whole school in October 2018. Worship Council are to be applauded for their initial request.

In the Autumn of 2018, with new Year 3 representatives, the Headteacher asked us to look at writing a school prayer. After looking at various prayers, and after a lively chat over a couple of meetings, this school prayer was agreed upon:

Father God,
in our school this day,
help us to learn and help us to play.
To concentrate on all we do
to understand and remember too.
Fill our hearts with joy,
for every girl and every boy.
Be with us again,
in our school,
A-men.

The Worship Council felt that this prayer should be displayed for pupils, staff and governors to offer feedback before it is adopted. This is presently underway.

Worship Council have also been looking at inside and outside reflective or Spiritual areas around school. There is a new outside classroom which they are keen to make a quiet, reflective area during playtimes. Revd Fiona has consulted with Debbie Helme at the Diocese to look at other schools who have transformed their outside spaces to create a Spiritual / Reflective outside space. We have mentioned putting the Lord's Prayer outside as well as 'life in all its fullness' and ways of exploring this through our senses. Future discussions about this will follow. The Faith Week and the Diocesan Lent Resources will all be areas that Worship Group will provide support and feedback as we look at 'Life in all its Fullness' in Cam Hopton C of E Primary School.