

Experience – Window



Reflection - Mirror

Growth - Door

Term's Christian value: Perseverance

Year Reception

Exercise imagination and creativity. appreciate beauty in the world and be alive to experiences of awe and wonder.

Growing Beans: Children had planted beans and were checking for growth each day. They began to give up when nothing seemed to happen immediately. After the weekend – huge excitement as they saw signs of growth.

Asked by teacher, "How did you feel when you couldn't see the beans growing?" children said, "Sad". One said "We wanted to throw them away."

Then asked, "How did you feel when you saw that they were growing?", children said "Really excited! We wanted to tell everyone."

Teacher: children had learned a lot about the preciousness of new life and the importance of patience and perseverance in caring for living things.

It was definitely a wow moment when they saw the new plants appearing. They wanted say thank you for the beans to God in class worship that afternoon.

Term's Christian value: Peace

Year 1

Be intrigued by mystery and be open to an awareness of the transcendent in the whole of life.

Class worship: Following questions from children in class about what happens when people die, the teacher used the book The Shore Beyond by Lois Rock in worship, to provide an opportunity for them to talk about the belief held by people of faith, that there is life beyond death.

The children thought about the Bible's teaching that when people die they go to understand that whilst it is very sad for heaven where God's love will surround them and where there will be no suffering or pain. The children reflected on what this place might be like. They also talked about people and animals that they knew, who had died. Some of the children said it was hard to do this at home because it made people in their family sad.

Teacher: The children began to the family and friends of a person who dies, it is still OK to talk about them and recall the good memories that they have of them.

It is also OK to thank God for them in our pravers.



Spiritual Capacities	Experience – Window	Reflection – Mirror	Growth – Door
Term's Christian value: Forgiveness			
Reception & Year 2			
forgive others.	a child in Reception to be upset by	and (completely independently) wrote a little story book. The subject of the story	Headteacher: The Reception child and the Y2 child are now good friends and can often be seen on the buddy bench chatting together at break times.
Term's Christian value: Perseverance			
believe in their potential to achieve and find inner strength and resilience when facing challenges	learning about the way that fire can be	these children were individuals of higher academic ability and were unaccustomed to failure. They were finding it difficult to	things difficult in the classroom were succeeding easily in this task. They were





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<u>Term's Christian value</u>: Friendship

Year 3/4

Demonstrate curiosity and open mindedness when exploring life's big questions.

Royal Wedding celebration: Interest was generated by a royal wedding in why people choose to marry and what makes two individuals decide to commit to one another for life.

A discussion took place about the promises that are made when people marry and the values that would be needed within a relationship to enable both parties to keep the promises. They also reflected about why some people want to be married in a religious ceremony and others prefer another type of ceremony. The children were asked to consider what promises they thought might be appropriate if they were designing a

Headteacher: Whilst this discussion was initiated by a wedding, the children reflected more widely about the values which are important in all long lasting relationships.

Term's Christian value: Justice

Year 5

Be guided by their beliefs and values and be willing to take a stand to defend them.

Literacy – persuasive writing:

Children wrote speeches on environmental impact, having watched David Attenborough's 'Blue Planet' documentary.

Reflecting on the experience of writing the speeches, children decided that using plastic straws was unsustainable.

wedding ceremony from scratch

Teacher: After a class discussion about whether to change to paper straws, the children decided to do without straws altogether.

They wrote to the Governing Body to explain their decision.





Experience – Window



Reflection – Mirror



<u>Term's Christian value</u>: Courage Year 5/6

Be willing to take risks and to reflect, learn and grow following experiences of failure as well as success.

Inter-school rounders tournament:

The children were losing every match by a big margin at the start of the tournament, mainly because they were hesitant and not taking any risks, ie only running to first base and not running at all at some bases. At the break the captain explained to the team that in order to stand a chance of scoring rounders the players needed to take some risks and not always play safe. If there was a chance of at least scoring half a rounder, they should try their best. Headteacher: When the players felt confident that they were not letting the team down by getting out, they began to play much better. They beat some teams and in the matches they lost, the deficit was not so large. Most importantly they stopped being so anxious and began to enjoy themselves!

Term's Christian value: Truth

<u>Year 6</u>

Be self-aware and learn to empathise with the experience of others as relationships deepen and an understanding of interdependence grows.

Forest school: Children asked to use items from forest school to create a waterproof boat that would float. Great care and attention to detail was invested in this project and children were very proud of their boats.

Children tested their boats in front of their peers. Some floated but others sank or fell apart. Children reflected on why some designs were successful and others were not. Teacher: The activity demonstrated that children were aware that some of their peers felt sad that the boats which they had carefully made, had been destroyed when put in the water. They were respectful and sensitive when discussing what might have happened and made helpful suggestions. The children concluded that a great deal can be learned from 'mistakes'.



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Term's Christian value: Peace

Whole School

Be comfortable with stillness and silence and open to engage in reflection/meditation/prayer.

Whole school worship: The children had heard a poem about the time that Jesus visited the home of Martha and Mary (from Roots & Fruits 2 **). (Mary sat down to spend time with Jesus but Martha was too busy.) The children were then invited to spend some time in meditation imagining that Jesus was visiting their home.

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Vision Day: As part of a School Vision Day a group of mixed age children were using a Christian Aid resource about the effects on the population of flooding in Bangladesh and the impact that aid workers were having in the disaster struck region.

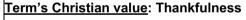
Children had some perfumed candles to create a special atmosphere of welcome. They used our normal mindfulness breathing awareness and stilling exercises to prepare for the time of meditation.

The children either focussed on the candles or closed their eyes. We asked a few simple questions to guide the children's thoughts (Who would be in your home when Jesus arrived? How would you welcome him? How would you spend the time together?) We then left two or three minutes of silence.

One of the outcomes of the work was that children began to appreciate how fortunate they were to live in homes that were well made and not susceptible to being completely washed away (along with all their possessions) in heavy rain. They expressed thankfulness for building regulations and high quality building materials.

Headteacher: After the meditation, the children spoke about how thinking about Jesus in their own homes made him much more real to them than when they just heard stories about him. They said the time went very quickly. We discussed the idea that 'prayer' for many people includes the practice of spending time with Jesus in their imagination.

Headteacher: Along with the desire to raise money for Christian Aid through a cake sale, one Y6 child became very interested in the idea of exploring what is involved in becoming an aid worker. He is in the process of researching this as a career path and is now the pupil lead in our school working towards our Silver Award in the Global Neighbours scheme.*



Whole School

Vertical Grouping (children from Yrs R-6)

Appreciate and be thankful for what is good in life and show generosity towards others



*Global Neighbours is a joint initiative between Christian Aid and the Church of England Education Office. For more details visit the Christian Aid website, https://www.christianaid.org.uk/schools/global-neighbours-accreditation-scheme

** Roots and Fruits 2 – The Life and Teaching of Jesus is a Collective Worship resource published by Imaginor Ltd, www.imaginor.co.uk

