



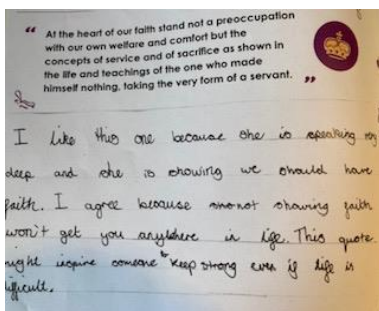
Thought for the Week

This weekend has been one of great celebration for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. For some this will have included street parties with friends and family; others will have taken part in the central celebrations and for others just quiet contemplation.



TV and radio have been full of reflections about the 70 years of the Queen's reign. Running through these has been the constant theme of her dedication to service. This was reflected in the service at St Paul's cathedral and in Prince Charles's speech during the Jubilee concert. Her seventy years have seen times of celebration but also times of great challenge, all of which she has faced with stoicism and devotion to her role. Whilst some will consider her to have lived a privileged life, I cannot escape the admirable fact that, at 96, she continues to serve her people and that her faith is the backbone that supports her in doing this.

Prior to writing this thought for the week, I was invited to join a collective worship at John Harrison Church of England Primary school. I listened as Y5 pupils shared their learning about the Queen's life. Pupils had reflected on this quote from the Queen which resonated with me.



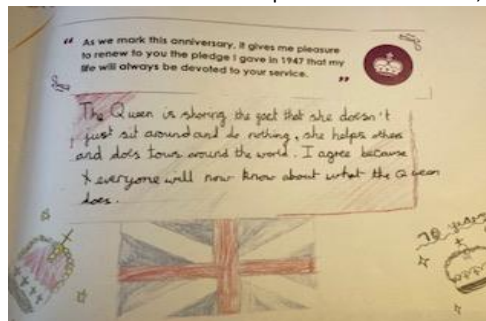
“At the heart of our faith stand not a preoccupation with our own welfare and comfort but the concepts of service and of sacrifice as shown in the life and teaching of the one who made himself nothing, taking the very form of a servant.”

For many of us in education the notion of servant leadership is one which will resonate with us. Many of us will also reflect on and be sustained by the example Jesus gives us particularly in our work with our most vulnerable and disadvantaged learners.

‘Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms’ 1 Peter 4 v 10

As the final term of the year starts, I reflect that our schools are full of wonderful staff who bring their varied talents and skills to the service of all our pupils. I know that, in schools up and down our diocese, staff go to great lengths in their work. We see service in the inspiring lessons which are taught; the patient support offered to individuals; the delicious meals which are served; the high standards of hygiene and cleanliness which keep us all safe and, in the determined efforts which ensure all pupils are safe and can fulfil their potential.

As you look forward to serving your pupils this summer term, take time to reflect on your understanding of service. Remember that service brings with it both highs and lows and that, in order to serve, you must look after yourself so that you are able to maximise your talents and skills. I wish you all a happy and fulfilling summer term.



“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5 v 16.

Loving Jesus,
Just as you taught us to serve others,
Help us to be true disciples and followers of you.
Help us to reach out in service to our communities,
Awaken within us a love that seeks to serve,
A love that finds joy in the happiness of others
and a love that endures the challenges we face.
Strengthen us in our work.
We ask this through Christ the Lord.
Amen

June Richardson – **School Effectiveness Advisor**

Important Updates and Messages

Lead Me To Still Waters

On the 1st July this year we have a full day session for headteachers and senior leaders called ‘Lead me to still waters’. It is a session that will support wellbeing and mental health for you, your staff and pupils. The day will provide the opportunity to work through different ideas and thoughts based around Psalm 23 that you can take back to school, as well as providing you with the time to restore your own soul. More details to follow.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

Dignity and Respect: SEND

We would like to highlight [this edition](#) of Called Collected and Committed to all school leaders supporting pupils with special needs but especially SENDCOs.

This edition focuses on inclusion with a reflection on the Green Paper by Gary Aubin (Author of the Lone SENCO.)

We would also like schools to be aware that Church of England Foundation for School leadership is developing a national network focused on all things SEND. We are aware one or two of our schools have already indicated that they would like to be part of this but would encourage others to join this supportive group too. Once we receive the schedule of network meetings we will circulate this.

The consultation on the SEND Review: right support, right place, right time, has been extended to 22/7/22 and is available [here](#). If any school leaders and governors wish to support the Church of England's response to the Green paper please do highlight your thoughts to Lorraine.Prince@churchofengland.org.