

EVERYTHING YOU DO, DO IN LOVE

St Andrews CE Primary School,
Leasingham



At Leasingham St. Andrew's Church of England Primary School, Collective Worship is a central point of our school day. It is a time for children and staff to come together, to listen to and learn about a story or theme, reflect on this and consider ways in which they can respond to what has been shared.

One such worship was based on the story of 'The Little Rose of Sharon.' Our worship began, as it often does, by considering our school vision, particularly the strapline 'Everything you do, do in love.' Children and staff were asked to think about how our school vision would be lived out through the story they were about to hear.

In the story, the rose is planted and grows within the Valley of Sharon, created by the aptly named 'Creator'. The rose is one of several beautiful plants and flowers within the valley but is seldom noticed by the Creator. However, the rose is very proud of its best feature - its beautiful, shining petals.



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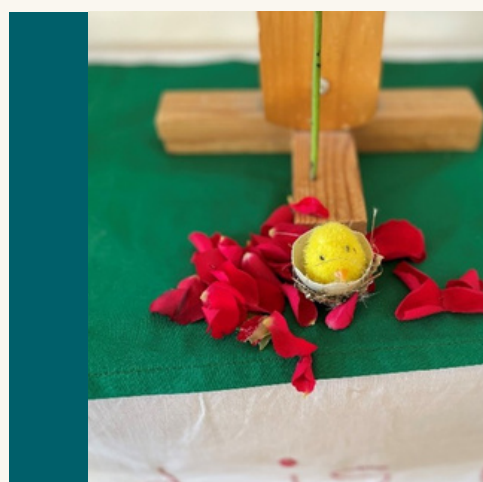
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One day, a storm hit the valley, and the rose had to hold on tightly to keep hold of its priceless petals. After the storm passed, the rose noticed that an egg has fallen from the sky, with two doves frantically flying around looking for it. Night fell on the valley with the egg still not found, and the little rose worried about its safety. The children and staff were captivated – would the egg survive the cold night? Were there predators in the valley? Would the doves miraculously find the egg and save it? The children were asked to think about the rose's most precious feature. Was there a way the rose could use this to protect the egg? When one child mentioned shedding its petals, they were invited to the front to help remove these and create a shelter covering the lonesome egg.



But did it survive. There were gasps in the hall as the egg had disappeared. Were the rose's efforts in vain? Had the petals not done the job of protecting the egg? However, the feeling of despair turned to joy, as children and adults looked on in awe and wonder as it was revealed that...



... the egg had hatched and the baby dove was reunited with its parents.

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The children and adults then heard about how the Creator appeared at that moment and went straight over to the rose. “You have given all you had to save the life of the baby dove,” said the Creator. The little rose felt warm inside at the sound of His voice. “One day when my Son lives on earth, He too will give everything He has, in order to show the world my love.”

This allowed both children and adults to reflect on how the rose sacrificed what was most precious, in the same way that God did in sacrificing His son on the cross. This then led into our reflection time, whereby we considered our school vision – ‘Everything you do, do in love’ – and how this was reflected in the story the children had heard, as well as considering how we might be able to show this value in our everyday actions.

The words of our school prayer were said together, followed by our school song, which displayed our key school value of love.

We know that worship has a positive impact on the children and staff in our school from the comments that are made about it.

Children say....

‘Time to reflect at the end of worship lets us think about the story we have heard. We can then consider what we are now going to do following what we have learnt about in worship.’

Staff say:

‘Worship is inspirational for everyone in our school community. It resonates personally for both adults and children, offering moments for reflection and opportunities to think deeply about life. It has become a time that I positively anticipate as I find it ‘sets the tone’ for the week ahead, allowing for meaningful conversations with the children once back in the classroom about what we have experienced together.’

Our SIAMS inspector said:

“Worship is meticulously planned to ensure that every opportunity for spiritual development is embraced. Pupils and adults alike are captivated by storytelling and the moral lessons drawn from the Bible. As a result, they make meaningful connections to their own lives.”