

Science & Spirituality Week – Spalding Parish CofE Day School

Following on from the success of last year's science and RE week, looking at big questions from both lenses, we decided this year to have a science and spirituality week. Each day we focussed on a different area of science, and considered how this affected our views about ourselves, others, the world and what is beyond. Each day we started with a question and a story as a hook to the learning. For example, on Monday, we looked at *You're Called What? By Kes Gray*. This looks at lots of strange animals like the shovel-nosed guitarfish, and the tassled wobbegong. We then thought about the question: *What responsibilities do I have for others?* The children considered how as stewards of the earth, we can care for these creatures deep below the surface of the ocean.

On Tuesday we focussed on forces and how we cannot see them, but their effects can be felt, considering *If you can't see something, does that mean it is not real?*

The next day, we thought about *What is the most beautiful thing in the world? What does it mean that beauty is in the eye of the beholder?* We watched a video of Louis Armstrong's *What a Wonderful World*. The whole school then went outside finding something in nature that made them say wow and produced a piece of artwork based on this. Upper Key Stage 2 children buddied up with the younger children in the school. As we are a large primary, it is rare we all get together outside of worship, so this was a lovely community activity.

Our day focussing on space had children considering *What is beyond the universe? What else is there to discover?* Having made some constellation pictures, and finding out what life is like as an astronaut, we then thought about how small we are in the universe so how can we still make a difference?

We ended the week having a day where we focussed on our spirituality. We had a mirror moment, where parents were invited in to make a collage portrait that told all about them. We had a window moment, thinking about where we felt at peace, and designed some outdoor peace gardens. We had a door moment, where each year group looked at a courageous advocate and we thought about how they could inspire us to make a difference. We ended with a candle time, a chance to reflect on how the week had changed their viewpoint or made them think about something they may not have considered before.

The week was an inspiring week for children, staff and their parents and we had some incredibly thoughtful insights from some of the children such as:

We have to take care of the world, it is our job. (Year 2)

I should stop and have time to think on how I feel today and just listen to the birds and nature. (Year 5)

There is more than just where we live and we need to care for it. (Year 4)



