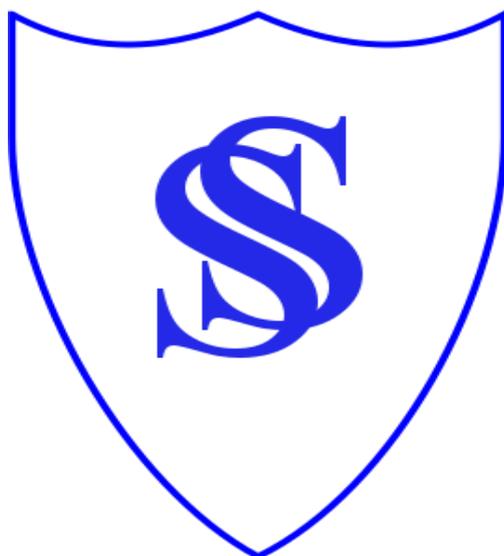
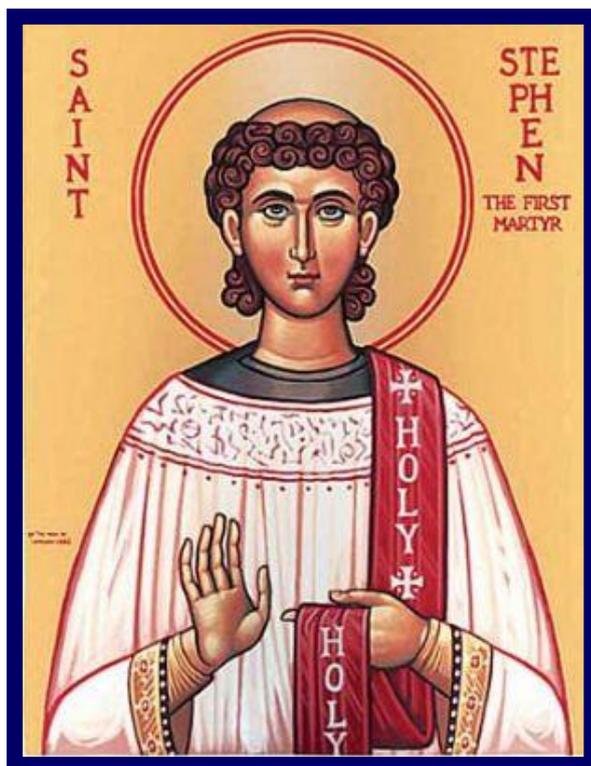


ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC



PRIMARY SCHOOL



Collective Worship Policy 2019/20

'Working together to succeed through faith in Jesus Christ'

Collective worship at St Stephen's involves and includes all members of the school community in their own and other people's response to God. At St Stephen's Catholic Primary School all children are given opportunities to learn about different forms and types of worship by participation. We welcome parents, families, governors and visitors to join us in our collective worship activities.

The aims and purpose of the Collective Worship at St. Stephen's are:

- to provide an opportunity for the children to worship God in an atmosphere of joy, happiness and friendliness;
- to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- to develop the capacity to listen, to forgive and to ask forgiveness;
- to encourage participation and response;
- to express gratitude;
- to act together as a Christian community;
- to promote a common ethos with shared values such as respect for others, truth, forgiveness and justice;
- to reinforce positive attitudes;
- to teach children how to worship.

Collective Worship Opportunities:

At St Stephen's we enjoy a range of collective worship experiences which include:-

- Class Collective Worship
- Assembly
- Liturgy in response to key events in the Liturgical Year
- Mass – celebration of Feast Days, Celebration Masses
- Sacramental Celebration
- Good News Assembly
- Opportunities for prayer
- Hymns and praise

Collective worship is a daily activity that is planned and structured in terms of time and content. Each day, children participate in the following acts of worship in a relevant and meaningful way:

- Morning Prayer
- Prayers before lunch
- Home time Prayer

The Four Part Process:

Collective worship is structured and planned for in four parts.

1. Gather
2. Listen
3. Respond
4. Go Forth

Collective worship can occur within the whole school, separate key stages, the classroom or small group setting.

The Form of Collective Worship:

Collective worship will include a range of forms and types. There will be times when the worship will be quiet, contemplative and serene and other times when it will involve lively music, laughter and dance. The format of collective worship needs to be creative and varied whilst being joyful and reverent, penitent and spirit-filled. Our school is made up of a variety of backgrounds and traditions. The organisation of prayer, liturgy and sharing should be sensitive to the religious, spiritual, personal and social needs and abilities of everyone.

The Elements of Collective Worship:

The following elements should be included in collective worship opportunities

- A clear focus or theme
- A passage from Scripture
- Links to the relevant Come and See topic or theme – when appropriate
- Some time for listening
- Some time for reflecting
- Some time for sharing
- Some time for mediation
- Prayer, both formal and spontaneous
- Some time for stillness and peace
- A mission or a task to take away

Collective worship is effective when some of the following is included:

- A visual focus or artefacts – however, the image should not be so powerful that it is remembered rather than the message
- Scripture
- Music – which should be appropriately chosen to create the desired atmosphere
- A psalm
- Dance
- Drama

It is important to remember that in any act of collective worship, there can always be the spontaneous moment or occasion when it is important, spiritually, to focus upon the immediate, so that pupils become aware of how the spiritual dimension transcends all our experience.

School recognises the need to involve children as active participants rather than recipients and as such provides purposeful child led activity which may include setting up the focus table, choosing or leading with scripture and prayer, spontaneous intercessions or lighting/extinguishing candles etc.

A typical weekly timetable of worship

Monday	Class Collective Worship
Tuesday	Class Collective Worship
Wednesday	Key Stage Collective Worship
Thursday	Class Collective Worship
Friday	Whole School Collective Worship

All are led by the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher or class teachers

On Friday our Celebration Assembly is two-fold:

- Collective worship led by the headteacher through celebrating a Come and See topic or a relevant Liturgical theme.
- A celebration of the achievements and learning of the children during the week. Assemblies offer an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued and all achievements are recognised.

Come and See, Harvest, Christmas and Easter Assemblies are central whole school celebrations for our school family.

Reviewed January 2020
Next review January 2022