

Collective Worship Policy

Richard Crosse Church of England Primary School

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| Last review date: | | May 2023 | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Next Review date: | | May 2026 | | |
| Review Cycle: | | 3 Years | | |
| Statutory Policy: | | No | | |
| Publication: | | Website. G/Policies | | |
| Owner | | Headteacher | | |
| Date | Version | Reason for change | Overview of Changes | Source |
| 19.05.20 | 1.0 | New Policy required by SIAMS | | In-house home made policy |
| 13.03.23 | 1.1 | Scheduled Internal Lead Review | Update to practice. E Bowring | |
| 01.04.23 | 1.2 | Scheduled Board Lead Review | No changes. H Bowman | |
| 05.05.23 | 2.0 | Scheduled Board Review | Ratified | |

To worship together is seen as an opportunity for all to share in Christ's love.
At Richard Crosse Primary School,
Worship is...
*Giving honour and reverence to a supreme being.
Christian worship is concerned with bringing praise, prayer,
thanksgiving and adoration to God.
It is an activity of response: in words, actions and thoughts.*

Worship is also intrinsically linked to our core Christian values of:

Friendship
Love
Respect

Our Vision

Collective worship plays a central part in the life of Richard Crosse CE Primary School. Collective worship is a means by which the school's Christian vision is expressed (Strand 6 SIAMS 2008).

Our vision here at Richard Crosse is underpinned by our motto 'Believe and Achieve', this encourages the children to not only believe in themselves but also to believe in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Through this faith in themselves and God we believe all children can fulfil their potential to be the best they can be. We encourage our children to find strength and resilience through their own faith and personal spirituality. . Our Christian vision is "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength" (Phillipians 4:13)

Our Core Christian Values

Love

"Love one another as I have loved you" John 13: 34-35

Friendship

"A friend loves at all times." Proverbs 17:17

Respect

"So in everything, you do to others what you would have them do to you." Matthew 7:12

As an expression of the Christian vision, ethos and spiritual life of the school, it offers the whole school community opportunities to experience, participate in and take responsibility for the living expression of Christian worship, valued and honoured through the school's Anglican Foundation. This is invitational and set within the context of the corporate community of our school and its historic partnership with All Saints Church. We affirm every individual's unique contribution, regardless of age, gender, sexuality, ability, background or religion. We also strive to help pupils connect their experience of RE with worship.

Legal requirements:

Trust Deed

Our daily act of collective worship is in accordance with the Trust Deed of the school/academy. This requires worship to be consistent with the faith, principles and practices of the Church of England.

DfES guidance

We also take into account DfES legislation. The following link will take you to the current legislation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/collective-worship-in-schools>

1988 Education Act

We also take into account the 1988 Education that states,

'.....all pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall in each school day take part in an act of collective worship',

And, that this should be,

'.....mainly of a broadly Christian character'

Worship and/or Assemblies

Some schools have a celebration assembly in order to celebrate pupil's achievements. Care should be taken that this is still regarded as an act of worship through saying prayer at the end of the celebration to thank God for pupil's achievements and successes.

Here at Richard Crosse we have an Achievement Worship on a Monday. During this time we celebrate our children's success during the week. Our achievement worship is grounded in our Christian vision and children share how they have shown strength in any form both inside and outside of school. It is also a fantastic way for parents to be involved in our acts of worship when they attend the weekly celebration assembly. Opportunity is provided for children to reflect on the school's Christian values and prayers are shared by the children.

Section 48 Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist Schools (SIAMS)

All church schools, whether they are Voluntary Aided (VA), Voluntary Controlled (VC) or Foundation (F) will be inspected on collective worship and the impact this has on the whole school community (Strand 6 of the SIAMS 2018 schedule). The core question of this strand is, **the ways in which collective worship is an expression of the school's Christian vision**. Here at Richard Crosse CE Primary School this inspection will evaluate the school's/academies collective worship on the following:

- that it is inclusive, invitational and inspiring
- offers the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection
- enables all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican/Methodist worship, festivals and, where appropriate, the Eucharist.
- Helps pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world, to encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and to develop their understanding of the Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God and its language.
- Enables pupils as well as adults to engage in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice. Leaders of worship, including clergy, have access to regular training.
- Encourages local church community partnerships to support the school effectively in developing its provision for collective worship.

The right of withdrawal (see appendix 1)

We recognise the right of withdrawal from worship for pupils at the request of parents and for staff, but encourage discussion with the relevant individuals to ensure that there is understanding of the aims and objectives of worship, and strategies for minimising the disruption caused by any withdrawals

Aims of worship

The gathering of pupils each day incorporates collective worship. Worship will be:

- Appropriate to the age, aptitude and family background of pupils.
- Provided in a variety of settings, groupings and timings, with a variety of leaders

| Day | Worship Lead | Worship Content |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Monday | Head teacher | Whole School Parents and School Community invited Celebration Assembly |
| Tuesday Bi Weekly | Nominated Class Teacher with Worship Council Christian Youth Worker | Whole School Focus is on the value of the term/ Biblical focus / Liturgical Calendar Whole School -Christian School Vision linked bible stories |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Wednesday Bi Weekly | Nominated Class Teacher Open Book - Church Group | Whole School - Songs of Praise Whole School -Bible Society Programme - acting out of Bible Stories linked to yearly events |
| Thursday | Head teacher | Whole School / Courageous Advocacy / Current News events focus and reflection |
| Friday | Class Teacher - Class worship | Class Focus on the value of the term - Reflection and Spirituality focus in small groups |

Worship should be invitational and provide opportunities to:

- enhance the spiritual development and response of pupils
- foster reflection, meditation, prayer and silence
- create an atmosphere in which God is both normal and natural
- foster a reverential attitude to God
- foster empathy and imagination, enabling pupils to participate in a variety of ways
- actively involve pupils in the delivery of worship in creative and imaginative ways (reading, poetry, drama, dance, quiet / silent reflection, prayer, singing)
- explore and enjoy praise, prayer and the rituals of Christianity (the Anglican tradition in particular)
- affirm the Christian faith and the central Christian status of Jesus as the Son of God
- affirm the Christian belief in the Trinity and explore the meaning of each person of the Trinity
- explore Eucharistic worship (where appropriate) within the Anglican tradition (this is explored within RE lessons)
- enable pupils to reflect on the experiences of Christian adherents
- foster and value a search for a faith to live by
- explore the schools/academies Christian values to deepen pupils understanding of them and how they relate to the school/academy, local community and wider world
- learn about and reflect upon Christian teaching, Biblical material and Christian festivals, in a way that relates to the pupils' experience and to living together in community
- worship together rather than apart
- provide an evocative setting for worship that fosters spiritual growth and reflection
- experience a broad spectrum of Christian tradition (various expressions of worship)
- inspire pupils to explore further their own faith and tradition
- encourage pupils and staff to plan, participate and lead in worship
- develop a sense of community and shared values
- consider the needs of others and to foster charitable works
- celebrate the highest achievements of the human spirit
- celebrate achievements of members of the school in every aspect of school life
- foster a thought provoking atmosphere allowing for spiritual reflection and response
- make regular use of local church buildings for worship

Other opportunities that worship can offer are:

- celebrate the beliefs and cultures of others particularly those represented in our school/academy
- celebrate of achievements of members of the school/academies community
- reinforce school expectations, good behaviour and school/academies routines
- share local school/academies and community information

Management of worship

Ultimately the responsibility for collective worship lies with the Head teacher and the Chair of Governors. However the role of planning, resourcing, managing and evaluating worship has been delegated to our worship lead in partnership with the Headteacher. In addition all teachers in a church school are 'spiritual leaders' and have a responsibility to help pupils develop spiritual awareness. Leaders ensure worship is relevant, creative, and

cohesive and will enrich the spiritual journey of participants. The themes and values to be explored through worship times each term/year will be decided in advanced and shared with pupils and their parents.

In Practice:

- The Reverend, worship lead and the Head teacher meet prior to the school year to plan core worship events including: Harvest celebrations, Christmas and Easter, so they are prioritised in the school calendar.
- Our school worship lead, head and governors oversee the provision, monitoring and evaluation of worship
- Our school worship lead provides planning for teacher led worship

Resourcing worship

Worship should be adequately resourced to ensure that it is regarded as an important part of school life. Pupils are encouraged and provided opportunities to plan acts of worship, so that they have ownership of it.

At Richard Crosse this takes the form of:

- Worship leaders from each class in Key Stage 2 planning and leading a weekly act of worship for the whole school.
- Year 5 and 6 worship leaders recording and reflecting on worships.
- The whole school being actively involved in Church celebrations.

Richard Crosse Worship Council

Worship leaders from each class within KS2 form the worship council at Richard Crosse. Each child takes enormous pride and enjoyment in their role. Every week they meet with Miss Hylton to reflect on and evaluate their previous worship and plan for their next worship. They also collect pupil voice in relation to collective worship. They lead worship both in the school and in the church and have an active role in achievement worship.

School led Acts of Worship in All Saints Church:

Alongside collective worship in school, the children are also a big part of worship at All Saints Church in Kings Bromley. The school is actively involved in the major events of the Christian calendar as shown below, and also attend and contribute to acts of worship outside of school time. The Open Book Team often act out Bible stories linked to the church service and children are invited to participate in these performances too.



Harvest Festival – Children across the school from EYFS to Y6 are involved in the Harvest Festival, from contributing pieces of work to leading parts of the service or choosing prayers and hymns, the children are actively involved as the leaders of this celebration in church.

Christmas - All key stages lead the Christmas Service in Church contributing work, prayers or readings. Members of the church also come in to help the children learn about Christingle, the children create their own which they can then take to when they attend the school led Christingle service.

Easter - All key Stages come together in Church to celebrate Easter with all children contributing to or leading parts of the service.

End of Year Service - In Church at the end of term, all Key stages give thanks for their year and reflect on how they have developed and overcome challenges as well as focusing on their highlight.

Leaver's Service - Years 6 lead a small personal service in school with their parents, church members and school staff present at the end of term.. This is a celebration of their time at Richard Crosse and each child is presented with a Bible from the church as a commemoration of their time here.

RE and Collective Worship



We see collective worship as a great opportunity to bring in the children’s learning from RE. Worships explore key theological concepts linked to their RE learning and children make their own links to Bible stories they have explored or the core Christian Values. Within worship, reference is made to the “Big Frieze” and any Bible story explored is placed within the context of the frieze to allow children to make connections.

Monitoring, evaluating & action planning worship

Worship is monitored and evaluated frequently in order to ensure that it meets the needs of all who take part. All stakeholders opinions are sought (this should include pupils, teachers, governors & parents) A yearly action plan which feeds into the school development plan is written and revised to ensure that worship remains relevant and up to date.

Records of plans and content are kept centrally on the staff shared drive. It is the responsibility of the worship co-ordinator to ensure that these are kept updated. There is a section on each day’s planning for annotation and comments. In addition, children take on a central role when evaluating worship, they complete reflective journals and the Worship Council collects evaluative comments from the children in the form of pupil voice. Monitoring and evaluating the impact of Collective Worship is an on-going process that involves input from staff, pupils and parents. Feedback provides insight into how worship influences the life of the community and is used to ensure on-going relevance and improvement. The worship co-ordinator also has responsibility for auditing and keeping records of resources and ensuring they are accessible to pupils and staff as appropriate.

Worship themes and current practice

The worship themes for each week are based around our 2 year worship cycle (**Appendix 3**) which links to our PSHE curriculum, core values and the liturgical year. Worship provision is planned from a number of resources including: Anglican lectionary, the school’s Christian values (see the LTP below) and how they are linked to Biblical narrative, Picture News, Imaginor values reflection journals, Christian Values for Schools and Barnabus in schools.

Worship Long Term Plan

Christian Values

3 Overarching School Values

Love, Respect, Friendship - The Good Samaritan

| <i>Year A</i> | <i>Year B</i> |
|---|---|
| <i>Responsibility The Story of Joseph</i> | <i>Respect (Hope) Moses and the burning bush</i> |
| <i>Service The Last Supper</i> | <i>Generosity The Widow’s Mite</i> |
| <i>Justice Jonah and the Whale</i> | <i>Truthfulness / Trust Jesus calms the storm - Storm on the lake</i> |
| <i>Courage David and Goliath</i> | <i>Forgiveness Zacchaeus The Tax Collector</i> |
| <i>Compassion The Good Samaritan</i> | <i>Creativity Psalm 148</i> |
| <i>Peace David and King Saul</i> | <i>Thankfulness 'Jesus heals the 10 men' The man who came back</i> |

Valuing All God's Children

"In Collective Worship the importance of inclusivity and dignity and respect for all should be explored, as well as other themes and values that play a part in challenging all forms of prejudicial bullying." The use of Picture News or Newsround linked to our values within whole school and class worship is just one of the ways in which we ensure the content of our worships are relevant, we place high value on ensuring that current events are explored within a safe and secure environment and children can see that we are all God's children.

APPENDICES

1 – Right to Withdrawal

2 – Worship Resources

3 – Long Term Plan

Appendix 1

Guidance for schools and academies on the right to withdrawal from Religious Education and Collective Worship March 2017

Collective Worship

The **1944 Education Act** gave the right to withdraw from RE or collective worship to parents who wished their children to receive different form of RE or worship. This right is also confirmed in section 71 of the **School Standards and Framework Act 1998**. In the case of collective worship, the government guidance document is **Circular 1/94: Religious Education and Collective Worship**.

Collective worship in all Church of England schools and academies should honour the school's trust deed and Christian foundations. Worship is central to school life, offering an opportunity for the whole school community to explore the distinctive beliefs and narrative that underpins the school's Anglican foundations and distinctive Christian character. Worship is the responsibility of the governing body in conjunction with the head teacher, working in partnership with the staff and the local parish church.

Our Church of England schools should strive to ensure they are consistently excellent, distinctive, and inclusive, and that the whole curriculum is underpinned by Christian values. Religious Education is an important part of the curriculum in all Church of England schools and academies. Its nature, objectives, and content should be shared with parents each term to ensure that parents are able to recognise that RE is of educational value to all pupils, whatever their belief background. In the same way, collective worship should lie at the heart of school life, proclaiming its distinctive character and faith in a way that is relevant, inclusive and that leads each pupil a little further in their spiritual journey. In this way, the likelihood for parental requests for withdrawal should be reduced. However, when they are made they must be handled accordingly to the legal guidance, while there is scope for a little realism and adaptability in order to ensure the best for every pupil.

In many of our schools within the Diocese of Lichfield, there is a large percentage of children whose families are members of another faith. It is the purpose and duty of every church school to be distinctive as a Church of England school. In each school, it is part of the mission of the church to welcome those of other faiths and no faith. In most cases, parents will have chosen the school for their child, making a specific choice of the school because of the ethos and education it offers. In a small number of cases, parents of other faiths will have been offered a place at a church school because no other school has a place for their child within a reasonable catchment area.

The right to withdraw from collective worship should be at the instigation of the parents or pupils above the age of 16.

The right of withdrawal from collective worship

The right of withdrawal from collective worship would normally be exercised through the physical withdrawal of the pupil from the place where the act of worship is taking place. Indeed the school could insist that this is the way the right is to be implemented. If, however, both the parent and the school agree that the pupil should be allowed to remain physically present during the collective worship but not take part in it, nothing in the law prevents this.

Experience suggests that, to avoid misunderstanding, a Head teacher / Principal will find it helpful to establish with any parent wanting to exercise the right to withdrawal:

- the elements of worship in which the parent would object to the child taking part;
- the practical implications of withdrawal; and
- Whether the parent will require any advanced notice of such worship, and, if so, how much.

Where parents have withdrawn their children from collective worship and request religious worship according to a particular faith or denomination, the governors and Head teacher / Principal will seek to respond positively to such requests providing:

- such arrangements can be made at no additional cost to the school; and
- That the alternative provision would be consistent with the overall purposes of the school curriculum as set out in **Section 1 of the 1988 Education Act. (Circular 1/94)**

Appendix 2:

Suggested websites for collective worship

| Website | Types of resources |
|---|--|
| 1 www.assemblies.org.uk | Updated weekly to fit in with seasons and times in the year, but also deals with topical issues and archived materials, prayers and reflections also available |
| 2 www.barnabasinschools.org.uk | <i>Where in the World</i> book by Martyn Payne – useful for considering the worldwide church in collective worship |
| 3 www.teachersdozen.co.uk | Collective worship presentations +CDs and DVDs, also linked with SEAL themes |
| 4 www.elyeducation.org/main/?page_id=38 | A useful resource which is specifically aimed at classroom worship planning with ideas for reflective displays and worship as well as suggestions for how to work these times into the church calendar |
| 5 www.prayerspacesinschools.com | Wider than collective worship but gives opportunities for pupils age 5-18 to explore faith and spirituality in an experiential way |
| 6 www.fischy.com | Music resources for use in collective worship – linked with spiritual health and wellbeing – links with SEAL |
| 7 www.stapleford-centre.org | There are some free downloads for collective worship taken from Margaret Cooling's book <i>Wisdom for Worship</i> , based on the book of Proverbs |

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| 8 www.worshipworkshop.org.uk/ | The Experience Festivals series for Easter, Pentecost, Harvest and Christmas – good for linking church and school worship – setting up interactive stations for children to engage with activities and reflect on each aspect of the festival | Primary |
| 9 www.imaginer.co.uk | <i>Out of the Box Worship</i> is a multi- sensory approach to KS1 class worship linked with values Themes. Currently £50. | KS1 |
| 10 www.cofesuffolk.org/collective-worship | A resource for using the Lord’s Prayer in collective worship and an RE focus day with plans for each year group in the primary school. There are different songs and styles for the Lord’s Prayer on the CD and also children from different parts of the world saying the Lord’s Prayer in their own language | Primary |
| 11 www.canterburydiocese.org/childrenandschools/collectiveworship/ | This provides collective worship outlines through the year for primary schools. It comes from the diocese of Rochester. | Primary |
| 12 www.sermons4kids.com/ | This provides weekly resources for use with primary schools. Biblically based. | Primary |
| 13 www.salisbury.anglican.org/resources-library/schools1/diaries-of-reflection | Diaries of Reflection. Excellent resources that provides a weekly reflection. Covers KS1 & 2. | Primary |
| 14 www.reboo.co.uk/ | Online resource. Well-constructed with loads of things to do for CW. Expensive at £299 for the year. | Primary & Secondary |
| 15 www.biblebasedassemblies.com/ | Online resource by Scripture Union. | Primary & Secondary |
| 16 derby.anglican.org/education/seeing-anew/ | Diocese of Derby – Seeing Anew. Interesting approach to CW that engages pupils in discussion. | Primary |
| 17 www.amazon.co.uk/Dont-Just-Something-Sit-There/dp/185175105X | ‘Don’t just do something sit there’ by Mary K Stone – a good resource/guidance on stilling. Good for mindfulness. | Primary and Secondary |
| 18 freebibleimages.org/ | A site where you can download free sets of Bible story images for teaching use in PowerPoint, PDF, Keynote or JPEG formats. | Primary |
| 19 bigstartassemblies.org/ | KS1 & KS2 Collective Worship As You've Never Seen It...Big Start Assemblies gives you assembly ideas in an all-in-one package for KS1 and KS2 primary collective worship. High quality and fun assemblies packed with multimedia and ready straight-out-of-the-box. | Primary |

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| <p>20 www.lifesavers.co.uk/assemblyResources/</p> | <p>Values for LifeSavers, a set of collective worship materials for primary schools that is designed to complement the Five Big Questions About Money classroom resources. Packed with more than 80 pages of ideas, these resources will help children explore what it means to be generous, wise, thankful, and just with our money. Values for LifeSavers has been written from a Christian perspective, but can be adapted for use in a wide range of school contexts.</p> | <p>Primary</p> |
|--|---|----------------|

Appendix 3 – Collective Worship LTP



The Staffordshire Schools Multi Academy Trust

Long Term Plan for Collective Worship, linked with Christian Values

Overarching School Christian Values

Love, Respect and Friendship

| <u>Term</u> | <u>Christian Value</u> | <u>Church Services/ Significant Christian Festivals</u> | <u>Linked Bible Stories</u> | <u>Special days/ festivals from around the world and other religions</u> |
|----------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Autumn Term 1 Year A | Responsibility | Harvest Festival | God gives humans the responsibility of caring for the world – Genesis 2: 4 – 20 The Story of Joseph | Interfaith week of prayer for world peace – moveable date |
| Autumn Term 2 Year A | Service | Christingle Advent Christmas Day | The Last Supper | Remembrance Sunday - held on the second Sunday, which is usually the Sunday nearest to 11 November. Children in Need – BBC - moveable date www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/fundraising/index.shtml National Anti-bullying Week – moveable date www.antibullyingweek.co.uk Advent - Advent begins on the Sunday nearest to 30 November Christmas Day (25 December) |
| Spring Term 1 Year A | Justice | Epiphany (6 January) Week of prayer for Christian unity (18 – 25 January) Candlemas | Naboth's Vineyard 1 Kings – 21 The Parable of the sheep and the goats – Matthew 25: 31 – 45 Jonah and the Whale | Holocaust Memorial Day (27 January) www.hmd.org.uk |
| Spring Term 2 Year A | Courage | Mother's Day Easter Eucharist | David and Goliath | Fairtrade Fortnight – starts late February – go to www.fairtrade.org.uk |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---|---|---|
| | | Ash Wednesday - the first day of Lent Mothering Sunday - moveable date – the fourth Sunday of lent Palm Sunday - in the Christian calendar, the Sunday before Easter, sixth and last Sunday in Lent, and the first day of Holy Week. Holy Week Maundy Thursday Good Friday Easter Day | A soldiers Faith – Luke 7 | Chinese New Year – (moveable date) – The year of the ??? go to www.chinese.new-year.co.uk Comic Relief – RED NOSE DAY – moveable date www.comicrelief.com |
| Summer Term 1 Year A | Compassion | Ascension Day - 40 days after Easter Pentecost – Whitsuntide – 50 days after Easter www.refuel.org.uk Trinity Sunday – the first Sunday after Pentecost | The Good Samaritan | Christian Aid Week (moveable date) www.christianaid.org.uk Wesak (moveable date) – Buddhist |
| Summer Term 2 Year A | Peace | Institution of Holy Communion (CE) or Corpus Christi (RC) (60 days after Easter) | David and King Saul | |
| Autumn Term 1 Year B | Respect | Harvest Festival | Moses and the burning bush | Interfaith week of prayer for world peace – moveable date |
| Autumn Term 2 Year B | Generosity | Christingle Advent Christmas Day | The Widow's Mite | Remembrance Sunday - held on the second Sunday, which is usually the Sunday nearest to 11 November. Children in Need – BBC - moveable date www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/fundraising/index.shtml National Anti-bullying Week – moveable date www.antibullyingweek.co.uk <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Advent - Advent begins on the Sunday nearest to 30 November Christmas Day (25 December) </div> |
| Spring Term 1 Year B | Truthfulness/Trust | Epiphany (6 January) Week of prayer for Christian unity (18 – 25 January) | Jesus calms the storm – Storm on the lake | Holocaust Memorial Day (27 January) www.hmd.org.uk |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--|--|---|
| | | Candlemas | | |
| Spring Term 2 Year B | Forgiveness | Mother's Day Easter Eucharist Ash Wednesday - the first day of Lent Mothering Sunday - moveable date – the fourth Sunday of lent Palm Sunday - in the Christian calendar, the Sunday before Easter, sixth and last Sunday in Lent, and the first day of Holy Week. Holy Week Maundy Thursday Good Friday Easter Day | The conversion of Saul – Acts 9: 1 – 19 The Prodigal son Zacchaeus the tax collector | Fairtrade Fortnight – starts late February – go to www.fairtrade.org.uk Chinese New Year – (moveable date) – The year of the ???? go to www.chinese.new-year.co.uk Comic Relief – RED NOSE DAY – moveable date www.comicrelief.com |
| Summer Term 1 Year B | Creativity | Ascension Day - 40 days after Easter Pentecost – Whitsuntide – 50 days after Easter www.refuel.org.uk Trinity Sunday – the first Sunday after Pentecost | Psalm 148 | Christian Aid Week (moveable date) www.christianaid.org.uk Wesak (moveable date) – Buddhist |
| Summer Term 2 Year B | Thankfulness | Institution of Holy Communion (CE) or Corpus Christi (RC) (60 days after Easter) | Jesus heals the 10 men The man who came back | |