



## Emmaus Youth Village Year 6 Trip

The Diocesan Youth Ministry Team (YMT) was set up at the request of Bishop Ambrose Griffiths back in 1995. The main purpose is to communicate the Gospel using various creative means to the young. They gather young people from all over the world to live a community lifestyle for a 10-month volunteer programme, which includes training in various ways of communicating the Gospel.

Within our school we have developed close links with this prophetic organisation working with our children. With the use of drama, mime, music and multimedia they have presented the Gospel in a lively and effective way.

In February, our Year 6 Pupils went on a residential to the Emmaus Youth Village in Consett. The children explored the theme of Shine and participated in numerous workshops throughout the two days we were there. We attended the retreat along with pupils from another Bishop Hogarth trust school; Holy Rosary, so it was a great opportunity for our pupils to socialise outside of the school setting and promote their independence in preparation for their transition to Secondary education. During the workshops, the children reflected on what it meant to shine, how they can shine in the lives of others and who they feel is a light in their own lives. At the end of the retreat, we came together to offer up our work to God through liturgy.

It was lovely to see the pupils work together to respond to the retreat in many different forms: art, dance and drama. One of the main messages the children took away from the retreat was that God is present in all aspects of our lives and therefore, we can offer glimmers of light in everything that we do.

There was a true sense of reverence amongst the children during the liturgy and we were all appreciative of the time we had spent together at the Youth Village.



## Emmaus Youth Village Year 6 Trip

