



Collective Worship Newsletter

Summer 2026

Inspiring All to Soar to New Heights

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles."

Isaiah 40:31

Dear Parents/Carers and Friends of Our School,

What a privilege to be able to share news of our Collective Worship here at Downham Church of England Primary School! This year, we have been focused on our core values - the 5Cs (critical thinking, creativity, courage, collaboration and challenge).

During the Summer Term, we have been exploring how the Bible teaches us about collaboration. Each morning, at the start of our worship, we light candles and say; "We meet together in the name of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit." James Green (an elder at Chelmsford Presbyterian Church) visited us on Monday 27th April and helped us to develop a greater understanding of the Holy Spirit and its role within the Trinity. We learnt that the Holy Spirit is a comfort, a guide, a helping hand, a judge to help us discern what is right and wrong, and a giver of good gifts. Perhaps you will remember the Bible passage about gifts of the Spirit:

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

Galatians 5:22-23



Other Monday visitors have included Rev Jacqui (St Margaret's Church of England), Pastor Katie (Billericay Baptist Church), Sue & Mel (Schools Ministry Billericay), Rev Darren (Chelmsford Presbyterian Church), Rev Richard, Dr Wilder and Pastor Rob (New Life Church). We are beyond thankful to have such a supportive network of local Christian leaders to help us with our Collective Worship.





Worship Group is a time for children to come together and consider how they can grow in their spirituality. They have visited the residents of The Belfry (our local care home) and have helped to lead Collective Worship sessions in school. Worship Group is taking a pause for Summer Term but will start up again in the Autumn Term.



We are pleased to announce that, with guidance from Mr Freese (the Director of Education for the Berlesduna Trust and a longstanding friend of our school), we have formed a team of Eco-Warriors. This group of children meet regularly to consider how to promote greater environmental awareness and stewardship of God's creation within our school community.



Our School Prayer

Dear Lord,
This is Downham School.
Let us have peace and make every day count,
Let us make friends and share laughter and happiness,
Let us show each other kindness, forgiveness and respect,
This is our school,
We treat it like our home,
And our friends are our family.
Let us remember,
As many hands build a house,
So many hearts make a school.
Amen



Community News

St Margaret's Church of England, Downham, host a Family Service on the first Sunday of every month at 11am. Rev Jacqui would be very pleased to welcome you to this or any other service at St Margaret's.



Each month, there is a magazine published locally - The Herald. We are thankful that Mr Andrews allows us to contribute to it and to share news about our school with the local community.



**SONGS OF THE
FOLK**

Many of you will remember Lauren & AT Cason, also known as Songs of the Folk - the American folk duo who have performed at school and led RE sessions in previous years during their sojourn in England. Since returning to the USA last summer, they have released a new album "In the Old Kingdom". For much information, check out their website:

www.songsinthefolk.com

In the Autumn Term, each class had an opportunity to work alongside Matt Mackman (a well-known, local artist). Each class created their named bird, for example, the Year 6 Eagles Class created a collage of an eagle etc. This collaborative piece of art has now been displayed in the hall and is a testament to all 5Cs. We hope to enjoy this display for many years to come!



Thank you for all your continuing support & encouragement. If you would like to know more about our Collective Worship, please get in touch with Miss Bailey via the school office.

Miss Boyd