



Caedmon School

Collective Worship

History of Document

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6.				
7.				

Signature of Headteacher

Signature of Chair of Governors

POLICY REGARDING COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The following aims for collective worship were arrived at after consultations between the staff and the Governing Body. In the context of the school community, which is itself 'collective' (that is bringing together students of varying social, religious and ideological backgrounds), 'collective worship' should:

- develop a deeper awareness of the Christian tradition;
- encounter and explore aspects of other faiths;
- provide students and staff with the time to reflect on matters of concern to individuals in the school, to the school as a community and in the wider community of Whitby in which the school is set;
- provide an opportunity for reflection, (issues here might include 'Who am I?', 'How do I relate to others?', the environment – natural and man-made, issues of good and evil etc.);
- develop skills of listening, being still, appreciation, thinking, valuing, caring;
- develop an awareness of recognition of the spiritual dimension to human nature.

Weekly Assembly Pattern

Monday	Whole School Assembly
Tuesday	Form period using 'Thought for the Week'
Wednesday	Whole School Assembly
Thursday	Year Assemblies or House Meetings
Friday	Sports and Awards Assembly

Members of the SMT or staff who have volunteered, take assemblies on Mondays and Wednesdays. Students are also encouraged to take an active role in assemblies. This may involve reading, acting, playing music or providing sports reports.

Specific times in the life of the school or national or global events are marked with special assemblies, for example Harvest Festival, Remembrance Day and Caedmon's Day.

All staff are provided with a copy of the relevant 'Thought for the Week' on which many assemblies are based. They are also given a booklet of prayers, quotations and thoughts with guidance – either for their use in assemblies or in reflection time in year meetings or form periods. Staff are encouraged to add to the booklet.

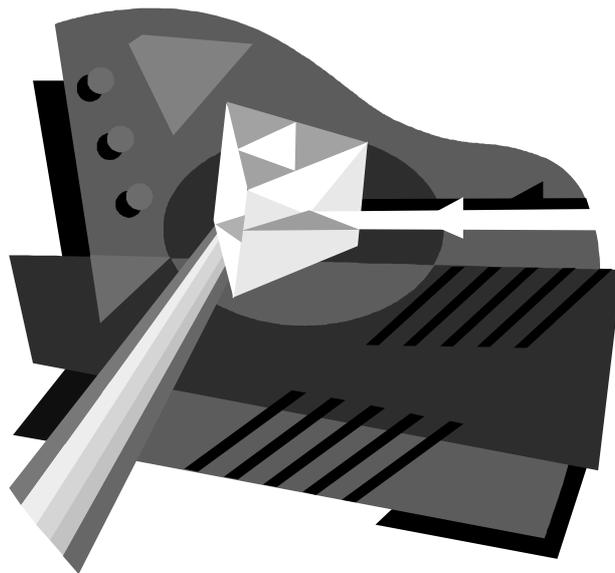
Under the Law, parents have the right to withdraw students from a religious act of worship or Religious Education. Any parents wishing to exercise this right should do so by contacting the Headteacher.

Monitoring

The school will review this policy in line with the three yearly cycle for all school policies to assess its implementation and effectiveness. This policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school and is part of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all students.



Prayers, Quotations and Thoughts
for use in
Assemblies or Reflection Time



Guidance

The following booklet of Prayers, Thought and Quotations is provided as stimulus material for those involved in taking whole school assemblies, year and house assemblies and form time.

According to the policy, collective worship at Caedmon School should:

- develop a deeper awareness of the Christian tradition;
- encounter and explore aspects of other faiths;
- provide students and staff with the time to reflect on matters of concern to individuals in the school, to the school as a community and in the wider community of Whitby in which the school is set;
- provide an opportunity for reflection (issues here might include 'Who am I?', 'How do I relate to others?', the environment – natural and man-made, issues of good and evil, etc.
- develop skills of listening, being still, appreciation, thinking, valuing, caring;
- develop an awareness or recognition of the spiritual dimension to human nature.

It is expected that a full school, year or house assembly should have a concluding prayer or moment of silent reflection to allow those present to consider what has been said.

A 'Thought for the Week' is selected for the whole school from the annual file. This 'Thought' can be used as a basis for both Monday and Wednesday assemblies, as a theme in both year assemblies and form time and is included in both the staff and parents weekly bulletin. It should also be displayed in all form rooms.

The Prayers, Reflections, Quotations and Thoughts document will be placed in the staff public folder on the school intranet and it is hoped that it will become an evolving document. Any staff or pupils who find a prayer, reflection, thought or quotation that inspires them may add it to the current document.

HOMES AND FAMILIES

Keep watch over our homes, O God and make them places of goodness, security and happiness. Protect with your loving care all those who are dear to us, and draw them and us closer to you.

ANIMALS

We thank you that we live in a world of infinite variety and ask that we will learn to use its resources wisely. We pray particularly for those who have responsibility for animals that they may treat them with care and respect so that the whole living world can praise your name.

HUNGER/HARVEST

Help us to care about the need of the hungry. Give us self-control to overcome our greed. Help us not to grumble about our food and not to waste it, Make us thankful that we are fed, when people in other parts of the world are weak with hunger. Help us to consider the needs of others.

LIGHT

Lord God, give us your light today:
Light to help us see the truth;
Light to help us see the way we ought to go;
Light to see ourselves as we are.

FREEDOM

Lord, your world is full of riches; help us to share them. Your world is full of problems; help us to understand them. Your world is full of challenges; help us to respond to them. Your world is full of selfishness and injustice; help us to fight for what is right. Lord, you have told us your Spirit will guide us in all truth. Help us to be guided by your Spirit in the world.

MUSIC

We thank you for the gift of hearing. Grant that our ears may be opened to all loveliness; to music and the laughter of friends; to running water; to the wind in the trees, to the call of the birds and animals and to all the multitude of voices in your strange creation. Grant that we may ever hear them in the music of your love, goodness and power.

A BETTER WORLD

O God, help us to value the world because it is yours. We brought nothing into it and we can take nothing out of it. The world does not belong to us. We are here to make it a better place by serving you and by helping other people. Guide us so that we not only understand this truth with our minds, but live it every day of our lives.

ADVENT

Lord, when you came into the world you brought us hope,
When you came to our darkness, you brought us light,
When you came into our strife, you brought us peace.

Now as Christmas approaches, help us to turn the hope, light and peace which you brought us into a reality in today's world.

CHRISTMAS

Lord Jesus, we thank you for showing us the power of God in the weakness of a baby, the beauty of God in the squalor of a stable, the love of God in those humble swaddling clothes as you lie there in the manger.

Please be with us so that we can serve people with the power of humility, the beauty of hliness and selfless love. For your Name's sake.

EXPLORATION

O God, who has made man with an enquiring mind, give us a thirst for knowledge and an understanding which may come to benefit others. Help us to strive for those things which are honest and good and help us to meet the challenges of life with a bold and daring spirit.

PLANET EARTH

O God, help us to value the world because it is yours. We brought nothing into it and we can take nothing out of it. The world does not belong to us, but you have given us charge over it to use its resources for the good of all living creatures. Give us the wisdom to understand the awesome responsibility of this task.

COURAGE

God give me the calmness to accept the thing I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can change and the wisdom to know the difference.

TIME

May we find time to appreciate the beauty of the world around us. May we find time for stillness and for peace even in a crowded room, even on a crowded day.

SECURITY

Help us to seek out and encourage the good qualities in others that they are able to achieve their potential and feel secure in their surroundings.

ACHIEVEMENT

Let us pray that we may live our lives adventurously. May we open our minds to new possibilities for using our skills and abilities and strive to develop our potential for the benefit of ourselves and others,

CARING

May we open our eyes to the problems of the world around us and may we do whatever we can to make other people's lives happier. May we never be so wrapped up in our own problems that we forget to care about anyone else.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Let us give thanks for the many people throughout history who have dedicated their lives to working for peace and justice. May we try by our example to show that a world of peace and compassion can be more than just a hopeful dream.

SIGHT

May we never become so worldly that we close our eyes to the miracle and mystery of life. May we give pleasure to other people by sharing our joy and happiness with them.

TO BOLDLY GO

Let us give thanks for the progress made in scientific research and space exploration for the luxuries and comforts it has given to us, for the assistance in curing disease, with storing information and with improving communication. We ask your help that we should not misuse the knowledge and skills that have been given to us.

DREAMS

Ours is the gift of hopes and dreams. We have the ability to build for ourselves and for others a bright future. Help us to aspire to those things that are good and true. Give us a sense of optimism and show us how to turn to hope, light and peace that your Son Jesus brought for the world into a reality today.

VIOLENCE

Hatred and violence are not just qualities that exist in other people. We all contain the seeds within us of terrible violence and evil as well as the power to do tremendous good. Let us remember that peace in the world starts and ends with ordinary people like us. May we try to develop the powers of good that lie within us.

THE INNER VOICE

O God our Father, help us to think wisely, to speak truthfully, to decide bravely, to act kindly. Bless us in body and soul and make us a blessing to all whom we meet.

VISION

Lord, give us a sense of vision and understanding that our reach should always exceed our grasp.

"Don't just do something, sit there!"

- Anon

"To understand is hard. Once one understands, action is easy."

- Sun Yat Sen (1866-1925)

"We are judged by our actions, not our intentions. We may have a heart of gold, but then, so does a hard boiled egg!"

- Anon

"The road to hell is paved with good intentions."

- Proverb

"We had the experience but missed the meaning."

- T S Eliot (1888-1965)

"You can't judge a book by its cover. You can't judge people by their colour."

- Secondary school student

"Beware of the sweet honey offered on the blade of a knife."

- Tibetan proverb

"You can fool some of the people all of the time, all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time."

- Ascribed to Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)

"The universe without music would be madness."

- Friedrich Nietzsche (1844-1900)

"If the beginning is good, the end must be perfect."

- Burmese saying

"In the beginner's mind are many possibilities: in the expert's mind there are few."

- Susuki Roshi

"Well begun is half done."

- Traditional proverb

"Greet the world every morning with curiosity and hope."

- Fife Robertson

"Optimists believe we live in the best of worlds and pessimists fear this is true."

- Anon

"The old law of an eye for an eye leaves everybody blind."

- Attributed to Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968)

"A difficulty is a light; an insurmountable difficulty is a sun."

- Paul Valéry

"The one who would be constant in happiness must frequently change."

- Confucius

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."

- Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948)

"A truly great person never puts away the simplicity of a child."

- Chinese saying

"Whether you think you can, or whether you think you can't, you're probably right."

- Henry Ford

"If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."

- Anon

"For me, curiosity is life. If you are not curious, you are in your coffin."

- Pierre Boulez, musician

"Discovery consists in seeing what everybody else has seen and thinking what nobody else has thought."

- Albert Szent-Györgi

"Tell me and I'll forget. Show me and I may remember. Involve me and I'll understand."

- Chinese saying

"Schools are not about enabling children to have a living but about children being able to have a life."

- Elliot Eisner

"Today is a great day for learning something new."

- Notice seen displayed in a school

"Education is not filling a bucket but lighting a fire."

- William Butler Yeats (1865-1939)

"All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well."

- Julian of Norwich (born c1342)

"To err is human, to forgive divine."
- Proverb

"A friend in need is a friend indeed."
- Traditional saying

"Your worst enemy is your best teacher."
- The Buddha

"Wherever you go, whenever you can, try to leave a gift."
- Anon

"To serve does not mean to surrender but to share."
- Abraham Joshua Heschel

"Service is the rent you pay for having room on the Earth."
- Shirley Chisholm, US Congresswoman

"There is no one so rich that they don't need help or so poor that they cannot help."
- Finnish proverb

"Give to the world the best you have and the best will come back to you."
- Shaker saying

"Can we fix it? Yes we can!"
- Bob the Builder

"Be patient: in time, even an egg will walk."
- Anon

"One of the simplest things about all the facts of life is that to get where you want to go, you must keep on keeping on."
- Norman Vincent Peale

"God without us will not as we without God cannot."
- Augustine of Hippo (354-430 CE)

"I expect to pass through life but once. If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow being, let me do it now, for I shall not pass this way again."
- William Penn (1644-1718)

"This is a moral universe which means that, despite all the evidence that seems to be to the contrary, there is no way that evil and injustice and oppression and lies can have the last word."
- Desmond Tutu

"Act always in a way to do good."
- Tibetan saying

"The door to evil-doing is wide, but the return gate is narrow."
- Yiddish saying

"Man's greatness comes from knowing he is wretched: a tree does not know it is wretched."
- Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)

"Most folk are about as happy as they make up their minds to be."
- Anon

"Our happiness is greatest when we contribute most to the happiness of others."
- Shaker saying

"One joy scatters a hundred griefs."
- Chinese proverb

"Within your own house dwells the treasure of joy: so why do you go begging from door to door?"
- Sufi saying

"Heaven isn't a place. It's a state of mind."
- Anon

"Before everyone's door there is a part of heaven."
- Chinese proverb

"The great danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it."
- Michelangelo (1475-1564)

"The world is a bridge: cross it, but build no house upon it."
- Akbar the Great, Mughal Emperor of India (1542-1605)

"You must go out into the world to know how lovely your home is."
- Yiddish saying

"If you know you're going home, the journey is never too hard."
- Hafetz Haim

"Man can live three weeks without food, three weeks without water. But he can't live three minutes without hope."
- Rabbi Hugo Gryn

"The darkest hour is just before the dawn."
- Traditional proverb

"Laughter is the shortest distance between two people."
- Victor Borge (1909-2000)

"Knowledge is like a baobab tree - one person's arms are not enough to encompass it."
- African proverb

"The unexamined life is not worth living."
- Socrates (469-399 BCE)

"Life happens whilst you're planning other things."
- Ascribed to John Lennon (1940-1980)

"Everytime an old person dies, a library burns."
- African saying

"Live your life as if you are ready to say goodbye to it at any moment, as if the time left for you were some pleasant surprise."
- Marcus Aurelius (121-180 CE)

"Whoever saves one life, saves the world entire."
- Jewish Talmud

"Life is rather like a tin of sardines - we're all of us looking for the key."
- Alan Bennett

"Begin today! No matter how feeble the light, let it shine as best it may. The world may need just that quality of light which you have."
- Shaker saying

"It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness."
- Chinese saying

"Turn your face to the sun and the shadows fall behind you."
- Maori proverb

"Lost. Several golden minutes between sunrise and sunset. No reward is offered as they are lost forever."
- Words on the wall of an early twentieth century classroom

"Bitterness is like a boomerang: once thrown, it soon returns."
- Anon

"A genuine smile touches something fundamental in us: our natural appreciation of kindness."
- The Dalai Lama

"Most people love humanity. It is the person next door they can't stand."
- Anon

"Take away love and our earth is a tomb."
- Robert Browning (1812-1889)

"The Earth has enough for everyone's need, but not enough for everyone's greed."
- Ascribed to Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948)

"You don't get a second chance to make a first impression."
- Anon

"If we stand tall it is because we stand on the shoulders of many ancestors."
- Yoruba proverb

"A person is a person through other people."
- African saying

"Unless we learn to live together as brothers, we will die together as fools."
- Martin Luther King Jr (1929-1968)

"Two people shorten a road."
- Gaelic saying

"Pleasant experiences make life delightful. Painful experiences lead to growth."
- Anthony de Mello

"Poetry is a way of taking life by the throat."
- Robert Frost (1874-1963)

"There is nothing so bad that someone won't praise it, or so good that someone won't complain."
- Finnish proverb

"Prayer is not an idle amusement. Properly understood and applied it is the most potent instrument of action."
- Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948)

"Proud people cannot live at peace together."
- Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster (1976-1999)

"The great never feel great; the small never feel small."
- Chinese proverb

"The nail that sticks up gets hammered down."
- Japanese saying

"The less one has to do, the less time one finds to do it in."
- Lord Chesterfield (1694-1773)

"The trouble with the rat race that even if you win you're still a rat."
- Lily Tomlin

"No snowflake in an avalanche ever feels responsible."
- Chinese proverb

"We didn't inherit the land from our fathers. We are borrowing it from our children."
- Amish saying

"There is no security in life, only opportunity."
- Mark Twain (1835-1910)

"Do not speak unless you can improve on the silence."
- Monastery rule

"The one who knows, does not say. The one who says, does not know."
- Zen Buddhist saying

"An ounce of keep your mouth shut is worth a ton of explanation."
- Modern proverb

"God created man because He loves stories."
- Old saying

"I never realised it before, but a school teacher is a very delicate instrument."
- Charlie Brown cartoon

"Success is a team sport."
- Anon

"Success is failure turned inside out."
- Anon

"People learn little from success, but much from failure."
- Arab saying

"Success comes in cans, not in cannots."
- Sign displayed in school

"The longest journey is the journey inwards."
- Dag Hammarskjöld, UN Secretary General (1905-1961)

"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."
- Chinese proverb

"Truths like roses have thorns around them."
- Shaker saying

"Declare peace every day."
- Quaker poster

"Peace begins with a smile."
- Mother Teresa (1910-1997)

"You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist."
- Indira Gandhi (1917-1984)

"A great fortune is a great slavery."
- Fortune cookie motto

"As the wallet grows, so do the needs."
- Yiddish saying

"Money is like sea-water: the more people drink, the thirstier they become."
- Roman proverb

"It is not the outside riches but the inside ones that produce happiness."
- Shaker saying

"Too many people spend money they haven't earned, to buy things they don't want, to impress people they don't like."
- Will Rogers (1879-1935)

"When a finger points at the moon, the fool stares at the finger."
- Chinese proverb

"A wise man seeks wisdom; a madman thinks that he has found it."
- Persian proverb

"The day you teach the child the name of the bird, the child will never see that bird again."
- Krishnamurti (1895-1986)

"A kind word warms for three winters."
- Chinese proverb

"Kind words bring life, but cruel words crush."
- Anon

"The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary."
- Anon