

St John's CE First School Bishops Wood

'I will give thanks to you because I have been so amazingly and miraculously made' (Psalm 139: 13-14)

Prayer Policy

Prayer plays a central part in reaffirming our Mission statement. Prayer has an important role in expressing and fostering faith. Times of the day should be set aside for prayer. These include before lunch, during Acts of Worship and at the end of the school day. A focal area of each classroom should be a prayer corner or table. This should contain a Bible, crucifix or cross, liturgical drape for the appropriate season, and other Christian artefacts which are a stimulus or focus for prayer.

The Peaceful Place and Memory Garden outside is also a focal place for children to spend time in quiet reflection with God. This should be reinforced during play times as well as lesson times.

Each class has a prayer bag which is available for use at home. This contains a book of prayers or bible, holding cross, liturgical drape, candle and notebook to record their own prayers.

Children should be encouraged to discover and use a variety of forms of prayers, formal and informal, private and communal.

Prayer should take place in an atmosphere of peace and should reflect respect for God and each other. However, children will be taught that prayer can take place anywhere.

The RE scheme of work provides many opportunities for prayer and contains objectives associated with the teaching of prayer. At all stages the children should be taught the meaning of the traditional prayers they learn. They should learn that prayer is communication with God.

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Lunch Time Prayer

For what we are about to receive may the Lord make us truly thankful. Amen (EYFS/KS1)

Bless us O God as we sit together,

Bless the food we eat today

Bless the hands that made the food

Bless us O God. Amen (KS2)

Home Time Prayer

Now the busy day has done

Father bless us everyone

Guard us in the dark of night

And in the morning send your light. Amen (EYFS/KS1)

Hands together softly so

Little eyes shut tight

Father just before we go

Here our prayer tonight.

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'I will give thanks to you because I have been so amazingly and miraculously made' (Psalm 139: 13-14)

We are all God's children here

This is what we pray

Guard us when the dark is near

And through every day. Amen (KS2)

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come.

Thy will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory,

For ever and ever. Amen.