

SOUTHWICK CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

We believe that all are equal in the eyes of God



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PARENT GUIDE TO COLLECTIVE ACTS OF WORSHIP



Southwick CE Primary School Assemblies

Why do we have them?

By law all schools in England have to have a daily act of worship (1988 Education Reform Act). This act states that collective worship should be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. We make sure however that our assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school and to other religions.

Our assemblies are times for being together so we can challenge, inspire, celebrate and foster an atmosphere which allows personal, spiritual reflection and response.



Right to withdraw

We expect all children to attend assemblies. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship.

How are our assemblies organized?

We always have music to enter and leave the assembly to help to create a calm and reflective atmosphere. A candle is lit by a child to signify the presence of God.

MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY

This is a whole school assembly led by a teacher
Separate KS1 and KS2 assemblies are led by teachers
A whole school assembly is led by Mrs Shellard or visitors
Assemblies are held in each class
Celebration assemblies acknowledge and reward achievements. These are often led by children and link to our values.

We welcome parents to assemblies on Mondays (2.35 pm) and on Wednesdays (2.35 pm). Please could you let us know beforehand if you would like to attend so that we can ensure you have somewhere to sit or we can inform you of any change in time!

You are also invited to come to any act of worship held in St Thomas' Church eg Harvest, Easter. You will be notified of these in advance.



Our School Values

Each term we focus on a Christian value and all assemblies have a focus around the value. We revisit these over a two year rolling programme. These values, such as Peace, Justice, Compassion, are relevant to us all whether Christian or not. Values help us to build the ethos of the school so that our children become responsible, caring people who think of others. They also help individuals to think about and make decisions on how they will live their lives out of school.



We look forward to you joining us for our collective worship.

**Lesley Shellard
Head Teacher**