

Gospel Oak Primary Act of Collective Worship

Monday 21st October 2024

1:30pm

Led by John Hayes – HT

Summary

An excellent high-quality act of collective worship. Pupils was engaged throughout and involved. Great moment for reflection given at the end relevant to their lives.

Detail

The pupils entered the hall in an orderly fashion. Behaviour was very good. Teachers working well with their classes and monitoring the pupils.

John, the HT, was there at the front of the hall to greet them.

Pupils greet Mr Hayes with good afternoon so after he has greeted them.

This week's theme which is about showing courage and confidence.

I want you to think of a time you have had to brave and showed courage – or you have seen someone else do this. Pupils discuss their ideas with a partner.

John took feedback from pupils around the hall – eg you might have to brave your first time doing something like going on an airplane; lots of examples given which John welcomes and links back to the theme.

John reads a story to them – ask them to be ready to listen. The story is about someone who has had to be very courageous. It is the story of Malala. John has put the story into his own words – really great use of language for the pupils. John also stops the story and checks for understanding by asking what certain words or phrases mean. Excellent practice.

When she is around 11 years old. The Taliban comes, who have very strict rules and began to take control – they believed that girls shouldn't go to schools, and they started closing down schools. Imagine if someone told you couldn't go to schools or see your friends anymore – how would that make you feel? Pupils talk to each other in pairs again purposely. Pupils say devastated, sad.

Malala was heartbroken and she knew this was unfair – every boy and girl should have the right to learn. She started writing about her experiences under a secret name and how girls should be allowed to learn. As she began to speak out – people from all over the world started listening. Her bravery came with danger. The Taliban knew who she was – her family worried for the safety. Mamala felt she was doing the right thing.

One day when she was 15 – something frightening happened. She was on her way home from school, but the bus was stopped. Armed men boarded and called for her. When they found her, they attacked her. She was badly hurt – she was taken to hospital in a very serious condition. Doctors worked to try and save her life.

Can you image the courage it took to carry on speaking out when you knew people might want to hurt you. Pupils do aired talk again – everyone is involved. Feedback taken – she had braveness

in her heart, she believed in what she was saying; she didn't care about the risks she cared about all the girls.

Malala survived the attack and she was moved to another country and gradually got better. She was now known everywhere as a symbol of courage and hope for children's education. When she was 17 she was awarded the Nobel peace prize – the youngest every recipient

Close your eyes – so that will help you concentrate. Mala used her courage to help the world – even when things were dangerous – she had the courage to stand up for what is right. That is an inspiration for all of us. I want you to think of something you have always wanted to try but haven't felt confident enough to do it. It could be trying a new sport or hobby, speaking up for someone else. Tell your partner what you want to do.

Pupils feedback some ideas of what they want to do – someone wanting to get over their fear of heights, dance. Close your eyes for a moment again. Focus on the way you are breathing – as you breathe in image you are breathing in the courage you need, as you breath out image you are breathing out the fear. (Excellent). In your head I want you to say a little thankyou about how brave you are becoming – what you can do this week in school – have ago.

Open eyes, look to the front. Don't forget this week is our week to try something new, being brave in a way you haven't been before.

Pupils then leave in an orderly fashion.

Observed by Claire Clinton