

# Lenten Retreat Day



On 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 the whole school took part in a Lenten Retreat led by Dan and Emily from One Life Music. The main focus for our Lenten preparation was 'The God Who Speaks'.

Pupils and staff all gathered in the hall to open the day of prayer and reflection. Each class had been asked to bring a focus word to the gathering.



Reception Class had a focus word: **LOVE**. They looked at simple Bible quotes relating to **LOVE** and talked about how they could live the word of God in their everyday lives. They decorated the quote with their ideas; these were offered during the whole school Prayer Service.



Year 1 had a wonderful time finding out about how God speaks to us about **LOVE** through the Bible. The children each chose a quote from the Bible about **LOVE**. They thought about what love means to them and how they can show others love. They know that they should love their neighbour and that everybody is their neighbour.

They decorated their Bible quotes and put them in a box next to the prayer area. Any time they need to be reminded of God's love, they will be encouraged to take a quote and pray.



Year 2 created a box of **LOVE**. They read scripture bites and shared how they linked these to their class word '**LOVE**'. After they had read Bible passages, they completed mini books showing love from their chosen stories.



Year 3 enjoyed choosing their favourite Bible quotes that explained their special word...**PEACE**. They all found a Bible quote and explained what they liked about it and why they chose each scripture reference. The Bible quotes were then taken home to share with their families - and some left in class for the class to be able to access when they need a little bit of peace from God.

Year 3 used Bibles to find stories about Samuel, Daniel and Jesus then responded to them with prayers, pictures and thoughts.

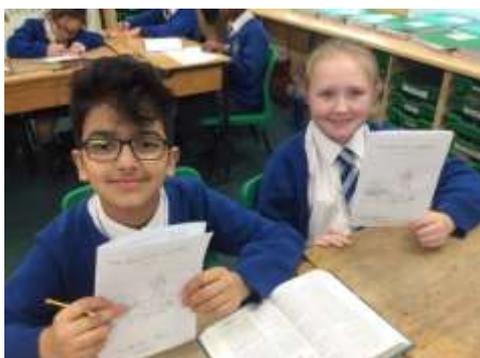


Year 4's word was **HOPE**. They investigated different scripture passages and chose their most preferred before identifying **HOPE** in certain Bible stories and they were able to understand the word of God by taking away a message of hope by listening to the God Who Speaks.



Year 5 focussed on the word: **COMFORT**. They used scripture bites and discussed the way in which God speaks to them. They discussed what comfort was and how they can find comfort from prayer. Then the class worked in partners to read through five different scripture passages which they responded to by either writing prayers, drawing pictures, writing key words or choosing their favourite Bible reference.

*"He comforts us every time we have trouble so that we can comfort others when they have trouble. We can us comfort them with the same comfort God gives us."* **2 Corinthians 1:4**



In Year 6's session, they discussed the message of the Retreat and how they can put this message into practice in their daily lives. They also focussed on their class focus word: **ENCOURAGEMENT**. They discussed what it makes them think of and how God speaks to everyone in relation to this word. Year 6 then looked at a range of scripture which linked to encouragement. The children were invited to share what their scripture bite said and why they felt it 'spoke to them'.

