

Visit to Ysgol Bodffordd 08.02.2024

1. What is the nature of collective worship at Ysgol Bodffordd?

At the end of each day, pupils come together for a class service. On Friday the school comes together for a collective service. This is an opportunity to thank for the past week and to wish everyone an enjoyable weekend. The daily service experienced by us here today was Christian. They addressed some form of ethics, and the theme was “love is not...arrogant”.

The children had the opportunity to guess the meaning of the word arrogance and went on to explain the importance of love and kindness, noting that God wants us to show love (the Old Testament) and Jesus in the New Testament. The pupils had the opportunity to contribute by sharing their experience of doing something kind that morning. There was an example of one making a sandwich for their mother to have for lunch, and another held the door for their sister. The importance of apologising was discussed, and it was explained that it is sometimes acceptable to raise your voice to get your point across, but that it is important not to use arrogance.

Each pupil could recite the school’s rules openly: “Kind Words, Kind Hands, Kind Feet”, and I felt that these three things set a robust foundation for Bodffordd’s pupils as they grow up.

2. What experiences do and will the children receive in the religion and ethics area of learning in the new curriculum?

- Year 6 Task: “Who is God?”

The pupils look at different religions and are currently comparing God or gods.

(It may be possible to put it up on the Anglesey SACRE HwB afterwards? Just an idea! And Rhys’ permission would of course be required to do this as I didn’t think about it until I returned home. What do you think?)

- Chinese Festival: new year
- Easter: theme after half term

3. How can Anglesey SACRE support the school(s)?

I understood that there was a better link between SACRE and the schools in the past. Gradually, the link moved to become a questionnaire. The contact is now very sparse. Mr Roberts welcomed a visit from members of the SACRE today. Appreciate having a better link with SACRE.

The idea was raised of creating a page on the SACRE HwB on Anglesey’s local pilgrimages, and the Headteacher warmed very much to this idea. He

was happy to contribute and would consider it to be a useful resource with local orientation.

- I learnt about the “Open the Book” process, where pupils have an opportunity to dress up and act parts of the Bible. Fun! This happens here in Bodffordd around every 5-6 weeks. (I wonder whether there is scope for a presentation by them in the SACRE some time?)

And there we are, a short but purposeful visit that opened the discussion for more collaboration, sharing ideas and looking for new ways to help each other.