

RE Visit 12 February 2013

A group of governors visited school to find out about Religious Education.

What did we do?

We had a meeting with Mr O'Brien, Head Teacher, and Mrs Henzell, the new RE co-ordinator. They gave us information about RE teaching in school, including the new scheme 'Come and See' and training for that, the recent RE inspection and follow-up developments and general information about diocesan support for the subject and for schools.

We then visited each class to see RE learning and teaching as follows:

Nursery: pancakes (special days/celebrations)

Reception: Chinese New Year celebrations

Year 1: 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea', special meals/celebrations

Year 2: the Last Supper

Year 3: story of the 'Stone Soup', sharing

Year 4: love and forgiveness

Year 5: Seder(Passover meal) and the Last Supper

Year 6: Unity and alone/community and Communion

What did we learn?

We learned that:

All classrooms have a prayer focus area, with a crucifix, fabric for the liturgical season, prayer cards etc.

RE is taught through themes, which are repeated and built upon each year.

There is progression in the children's understanding and their response as they move through the years.

Handwriting was good.

The RE we saw had interesting and varied resources.

RE can be assessed by written work and oral work.

Positive comments?

The children were very involved in what they were doing and were keen to take part.

All children had a positive approach to their RE, no matter what their background was.

We saw very focussed paired work .

We saw a variety of activities including whole class teaching, drama work in groups, carousel work, individual work.

The visit gave us a very good overview of the 'Come and See' programme.

It was very interesting and enjoyable.

The children were able to tell us about their work.

Did we have any questions?

Not at this stage

What might we do in further visits?

It would be useful to see children leading liturgies that they have devised as this is a development point from the RE inspection.

Other comments?

It was very useful to have information at the start from Mr O'Brien and Mrs Henzell.

It was good to do the learning walk with staff and governors together as we were at the same point in terms of looking at RE and 'Come and See'. It was the first time the governors had looked at RE in this way with the staff.