

South Bersted CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Noel Goodwin

15th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Church Visit – Friday 17th September 2021

This Friday, pupils in Years 1-6 will be visiting the church, St Mary Magdalene, for a school service. Traditionally, this would take place on the first Friday of each term, however it was delayed so that children could attend face to face in-school Collective Worship this week. **Please note, that this service is for pupils only.** We hope that as we progress through the year, parents and carers will be able to join us for our church services.

This week it has been wonderful to have pupils back in the hall as part of our approach to Collective Worship. This half term, our school value is **Koinonia**.

Koinonia means 'that which is in common' and is often translated as 'fellowship' or 'community'. Other translations might include 'union', 'partnership', or 'being yoked together'. A yoke is a shaped piece of wood that goes across the shoulders, often linking two animals. By combining their strength, it helps work to be done and burdens to be carried.

Koinonia expresses the quality of relationship within the Christian community. It is based on fellowship with Jesus. Through him, Christians share the relationship that Jesus has with God. In John 17, Jesus prays that all his followers may be 'perfectly one' as he and the Father are one. Through him, Christians become sons and daughters of God and therefore brothers and sisters of each other. They are all members of the same family. A central element of being a family is interdependence: all are needed and valued and each person is important to the whole. The same message is found in Paul's image of the Christian community as the body of Christ.

During this half term, we explore the importance of being part of fellowship within the school and the pupils house system. This week, we have explored the importance of our school rules, 3D's and 5Ws, and the role we play as a school community.

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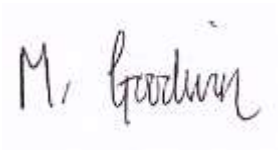
During our visit to church on Friday, Tim will continue to explore the value of Koinonia. This half term, our biblical reference is:

1 Corinthians 12 v 12 -31

'Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one'

This reference underpins the fact that the school is the school due to the individuals in it. Each child is unique and valued as a member of the school community.

Yours sincerely



Mr Noel Goodwin
Headteacher

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