**Visit to Giraffes Class for RE - Summer Term 2023**

I had a great afternoon with Giraffes class for their RE lesson. As always, the children and staff were so welcoming and it was great to catch up and hear what the children had been up to since my last visit earlier this year.

Before the lesson started, the class did the register and stated which colour they were feeling using the Zones of Regulation framework. The class have been learning Italian during Culture Week so the children answered the register and gave their colours in Italian. I really enjoyed listening to this and was so impressed with the children’s skills! Ben Fatto Giraffes!

Today’s lesson was around the story of the Good Samaritan. The lesson started with Mr Campbell introducing the concept of ‘helping’ and Random Acts of Kindness. The class had a brilliant and insightful discussion about what it meant to be helpful and shared situations when they had helped someone. This gave a strong introduction to the topic and gave the class real-life applications, making the topic and the following story relevant to their lives. This is a great way to ensure ‘sticky knowledge’. As always, I was so impressed by the eagerness of every class member to join in and share their ideas.

We then heard the story of the Good Samaritan, with the story and pictures up on the board as a visual aid. Mr Campbell ensured that the story was interactive and created opportunities throughout for the children to share their thoughts on what was happening in the story. Mr Campbell also paused to check the children’s understanding of the story and to highlight any ‘tricky’ words. It was clear that every child understood the story completely by the end.

After listening to the story, the class engaged in several activities to consolidate their understanding of the story. The class was first split into smaller groups and took turns to act out the story in front of the class. Every single pupil worked so hard and put all their effort into their performance. In the second activity, the children were given pictures from the story and had to arrange them into the correct sequence. The children worked in groups, which provided a great opportunity to work on their teamwork skills.

The lesson ended with teaching staff asking the class for their feedback on the lesson. I wasn’t surprised to hear that the children were able to feedback what they had learnt and they felt that they could now retell the story. I think it’s a refreshing idea to ask the children for their opinion on the lesson and I’m sure they appreciated it too. It’s great that they have the opportunity to take an active role in their learning!

Thinking back to when I met Giraffes class in the Autumn term, I can see how much their confidence has grown in the past year, both academically and socially. Every pupil was an active participant in the lesson and teaching staff ensured that all class members had an equal opportunity to join in with discussions and activities. Looking through their work books from the past school year, you can really see the progress they have made with their school work, especially their writing and drawing skills. Every member of the class should be so proud of themselves. They truly are a credit to Orrets Meadow School.

I would like to thank the children of Giraffes class, Mr Campbell, Miss Johnson, Mrs Welch and Mrs Randall for welcoming me this afternoon. I have had a fantastic year learning with the class during my visits and I wish them all the best of luck in their new school year.

Bethany