



Bedford Hall Methodist Primary School

As a Methodist school, we are guided by the principle that faith is lived out in community, where every individual is valued and encouraged to flourish. John Wesley spoke of a faith that is both personal and social, and we see this reflected when opportunities arise for our youngest pupils to share their gifts with others.

This term, our Reception class enjoyed their first opportunity to engage with our Chapel community during a special coffee morning. With confidence and enthusiasm, the children retold the story of *Little Red Riding Hood*, a text they have been exploring in class, bringing it to life through their storytelling. They also proudly shared their early writing and artwork, demonstrating both their growing skills and their joy in learning.

The Chapel members always warm our children's hearts by delighting in their creativity and celebrating their achievements. These intergenerational moments embody our Methodist commitment to fellowship, encouragement and nurturing one another in love. Our Chapel community always looks forward to these visits, which serve as a reminder that even our youngest members have much to offer and that, together, we build a caring and connected church- school family.



Our collective worship over recent weeks has focused on the importance of dignity, compassion and belonging. Through the parable of *The Lost Sheep*, the children explored the idea that while we are all equally important, there are times when individuals may need extra care and attention. We also considered that sometimes feelings of frustration can arise and how we can feel perplexed at the audacity of it! (*Have you ever considered how the 99 sheep must have felt when they followed all the instructions, did all the right things... and yet the shepherd gave all his attention to finding the one who didn't even listen!*)



Exploring stories in this way is an important step in developing empathy and understanding within our school family. It prompted thoughtful reflection on fairness and helped pupils understand that equity is not about treating everyone the same, but about giving each person what they need at the time. We trust that love and support will be shown to us, if we ever feel lost or alone too because, at Bedford Hall, *everyone matters*.

On Friday 19th June, we held a 'Diversity Day' to celebrate the uniqueness of every individual by inviting children to come to school in clothes that offered a subtle insight into who they are. This joyful event encouraged pupils to listen to one another's stories, broadening their understanding of different backgrounds, cultures, traditions and family experiences. It was a powerful reminder that we grow in love and understanding simply by taking the time to truly hear one another.



We were also proud to use this opportunity to raise funds for *The Proud Trust*, a charity we have supported for a number of years. Their work supports children and young people connected to the LGBTQ+ community, promoting understanding, respect and inclusion. As a school, we are proud to be a place where everyone truly matters, where all families feel safe, welcomed and valued—living out our Methodist calling to love our neighbour.

Lisa Draper

Headteacher