



**Milwards Primary School and Nursery  
Paringdon Road, Harlow, Essex CM19 4QX**

**'Prayer Spaces' at Milwards Primary School and Nursery  
October 2012**

We were very fortunate in 'piloting' the concept of 'Prayer Spaces' at Milwards Primary School and Nursery. We have previously welcomed Great Open Door into school with assemblies and lessons: these have always been very well received by both staff and pupils from 5 to 11 years old.

The Prayer Spaces project, brought to us by Harlow's churches, began with very clear instructions. The room was very quickly and efficiently set up with a wide range of stimulating activities that were easily accessible by all pupils.

The result of the careful planning and stimulating room meant that all of the children were engaged from the beginning. The wide range of Prayer Spaces activities meant that there was a well-paced rota; this ensured that the children were constantly on task.

When asked about these Prayer Stations the children stated that their favourite station was....

the tablets because it made me really think about how to forgive. (Year 6 pupil)

fizzy forgiveness because I was able to get rid of my worries and they're not churning inside me (year 6 pupil)

the plasma ball because it showed me that God doesn't like to let go of us" (Year 5 pupil)

They also noted that they had learnt that....

you have to forgive or you feel worse. (Year 4)

you have to relax yourself (Year 3)

it isn't just about you (Year 6)

The staff at Milwards found the instructions given were very clear and this ensured that all of the sessions ran smoothly. They noted that the range of activities were well designed and well prepared. This resulted in the children being fully engaged in and learning from the activities. The year 5 teacher stated that *'the prayer space was a calming environment and all children were engaged and was a wonderful outlet for the pupils.'*

The staff at Milwards Primary School and Nursery all requested that this KS2 session is added to the RE Scheme of Work.

In summary the children's overall view of the Prayer Space was that....

it was calm and peaceful (Year 5)

it was excellent and I would want to do it again (Year 6)

it was the best thing ever (Year 5)

Angela Callaway  
Headteacher

**We CHALLENGE you to be the best you can be**

