

'Shine a light' a charity fundraiser by Faith Council at Hopton Primary School

The eight children on our Faith Council regularly get together to arrange and rehearse our half termly Faith Council assemblies. There is always lots to discuss and sort out. We were just deciding who would hand out the handful of battery operated tealights to a select few in the audience, as part of our Candlemas offering, when it came to us that it would be nice if everyone in school had a candle to take home.

As one does, we slept on it. The next morning, we Googled tealights, ordered 150 scented ones and decided, a bit like Poppy Day, we would turn it into a way of raising money for people in need. The BBC news the night before had been full of the emerging tragedy confronting children in Afghanistan who are facing a triple threat from conflict, climate disaster, and COVID-19. Millions are hungry, displaced, out of school, and facing the dangers of a freezing winter. Our Faith Council wanted to help them, and were keen to promote a charity event. Our current value is compassion, and we really needed to show it here. That is how 'Shine a Light' was born.



Posters were made and distributed to the classes, letters were sent home, and parent mails emailed out. Save the Children provided us with collection boxes, balloons, and stickers. The stationery cupboard was raided for envelopes.

We gave every child, as well as members of staff, at Hopton School a scented tealight candle on 31st January to celebrate Candlemas on 2nd of February. The message inside the envelope suggested how to support our fundraiser by donating online, by handing a donation to a Faith Council representative in class, or by saying a prayer for the children of Afghanistan who are in such great need!

At the time of writing, we have raised just under £170.00! If you would like to visit our Just Giving page, to read the comments and find out more, here is the address:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/hopton2022>