

TERM 5 /YEAR 3 /WEEK 4– Responding to Peace

Shalom includes ideas of healing and health, wholeness and well-being. It means harmony, stability and security within a community. It refers to relationships based on truth and righteousness, where people flourish because they are nurtured. (Definition from <http://www.christianvalues4schools.co.uk/>)

SEAL link – Getting on and Falling out

Values link – Peace

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p><i>Peace be with you</i></p> <p>And also with you</p>	<p>Jesus gives the gift of Peace (whole school) John 20 v 19- 23 In John’s Gospel, we read about the first time Jesus appears to his disciples after the resurrection. He comes to them at a time when they are living in fear. Ask the pupils to discuss: Why were they afraid? How would seeing Christ helped them to face their fear? Christ brings ‘Shalom’ as a gift of peace to his disciples, which he instructs them to share with others. (see above). He reminds them of the importance of forgiveness. Remind pupils of last week’s worship on Forgiveness. Being prepared to forgive someone is often the first step towards peace. Look at the playground rules for the school. How many of these require us to be the forgivers and givers of peace to one another?.</p> <p>Peace in the Old Testament (whole school) Isaiah 11. 1-9 Isaiah, the prophet, is describing a vision where everyone, no matter who they are, will put aside their differences and live in harmony. Resources: picture cards of the animals mentioned in Isaiah. Display the picture cards so all the pupils can see. Ask them to match up the animals in ‘friendship pairs’. Why would it seem that these animals wouldn’t get along together? Discuss with the pupils that these are barriers that need to be overcome and that humans may also have barriers to getting along that often seem impossible to overcome. The disciple, Peter, said that we must ‘seek peace and pursue it’ (1 Peter 3:11). This means that we must actively look for ways to find peace with one another no matter how difficult it might at first appear.</p>	<p>In Church services, sometimes the members of the congregation offer a sign of peace to one another. They shake each other’s hands – even with people they don’t know and say ‘Peace be with you’. Ask the pupils to share a sign of peace with one another.</p> <p><i>The Commitment to peace: Schools may use the words here to form part of the worship or ask pupils in class to write questions particular to their context.</i></p> <p>The response to each line is ‘We will’ or ‘With the help of God, we will’. Leader: Jesus calls us to live in peace and to love one another. Will you commit to living as people of peace? We will Will you treat each other with respect? Will you play fairly with all? Will to listen to what others have to say even when you may not agree? Will you forgive those who hurt you? Will you work towards peace in our world? End with: Colossians 3:15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart</p>	<p><i>‘Go in peace to love and serve the Lord’</i></p> <p><i>‘Let us go about our day in the spirit of Love and Peace’</i></p>

	<p>Peace in the world (whole school) Luke 6 v 27-31 In this gospel Jesus us commands us to love even our enemies. Think about the Nobel Peace Prize: http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/ Some pupils will be aware through the media, of unrest that exist in the wider world. It is important therefore, to focus on individuals who have made a difference to the peace - past winners of the Nobel prize have included Martin Luther King, Mother Theresa, Bishop Desmond Tutu and Malala Yousafzai. What sort of values does a peacemaker have? Can we all be peacemakers?</p>	<p>since, as members of one body, you were called to peace.</p> <p>Suggested praise: <i>Give me oil in my lamp</i> <i>Peace like a river</i> <i>Be still for the presence of the Lord</i> <i>Shalom, Shalom</i></p>	
	<p>Our Commitment to Peace (key stage or class) Matthew 5:19 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God' Share with the pupils that we are all peacemakers and that living in peace starts right here in school with the people we see every day. Remind pupils of last week's worship on Forgiveness. Being prepared to forgive someone is often the first step towards peace. Ask pupils to think about other steps they need to take to keep peace on our playgrounds. Include the 'Commitment to peace' see Response as part of the worship – with pupils reading each line. Under close supervision, older pupils may wish to light a candle after each line is said.</p>	<p>Reflect: Provide the image of the dove and olive branch as a focal point for reflection. Ask pupils to think about an act of peace to which they will commit today.</p>	