

TERM 5 /YEAR 3 /WEEK 5– Responding to Koinonia

Koinonia means ‘that which is in common’ and is often translated as ‘fellowship’ or ‘community’ (definition from <http://www.christianvalues4schools.co.uk/>).

There is great scope this week to celebrate the school’s position as part of a wider community, to embrace the links it has with the church community, or even with another church school. If practical, consider doing a joint collective worship with another school or inviting along members of the parish who serve their community.

Visual stimulus - make paper templates of the pupils’ hands. Ask them to write their name on them. These could form a border around the school hall during this week of worship, giving representation that we are all joining hands in fellowship.

SEAL link – Relationships

Values link – Koinonia (community/fellowship)

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p><i>We gather together as one with one another in Jesus</i></p> <p><i>Let the light of Christ shine in our hearts</i></p>	<p>A sense of community in early Christians (whole school) Acts 4 v 32-35 In this passage, followers of Christ or ‘the people of the Way’ who had come to hear the Apostles speak about the glory of the resurrection. They have shown their love and care for those in need by bringing gifts of food/money to be shared with fellow followers. Christians today often donate money, food and time to their local church/parish community. You could share with pupils specific ways in which the local church/school looks after those in need. Invite someone from the parish who volunteers to talk about their experiences. If this isn’t possible, ask older pupils who have a responsibility in school to lead worship by talking about how they serve the school community.</p>	<p>Use the school prayer (the Pupil Voice or worship group could write one, if one doesn’t already exist). Include the school’s values in the prayer which will reinforce how they underpin the community.</p>	<p><i>Just as Jesus Christ is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit, let us work together as a community of God’s people, sharing in the love and unity of the Trinity.</i></p>
	<p>We are one body, in good times and bad (whole school) 1 Corinthians 12 v 12-31 This chapter in Corinthians demonstrates that just like parts of body we all have an important part to play and we are all equally valued as part of a team. When we are successful, we rejoice together but if one us is struggling we pull together to help. Ask a small group of pupil to demonstrate this by completing a short team building exercise. eg: changing places on a bench in order of size without falling off, carrying a paper plate of jelly whilst having their hands joined together in spoke formation or similar Ask the pupils to discuss how important it was that they supported one another, even when the task was difficult. How important is it to share success as a team rather as an individual? Remind pupils of success and achievements (and if appropriate, challenges) which they have shared together as a school.</p>	<p>Prayer from the Iona worship song “ A touching place” <i>Christ’s is the world in which we move, Christ’s are the folk we’re summoned to love, Christ’s is the voice which calls us to care, and Christ is the one who meets us here.</i> <i>Amen</i></p>	<p><i>We go into the world to walk in God’s light, to rejoice in God’s love and to reflect God’s glory</i></p>

	<p>Koinonia in the world (whole school) John 17 v 20-23 http://ely.anglican.org/education/schools/collective_worship/documents/10values_001.pdf see above for resources from the Diocese of Ely The Iona Community Iona is a small island of the west coast of Scotland. In the year 563, the monk Columba (St Columba) set up a monastery and a small Christian community, which went on to spread Christianity across Scotland and Northern England. Nowadays, the Iona community is a group of people from different churches who help in local communities all over the world. Use the resource above to share the work of the Iona Community. Then ask the pupils how the school is similar. Think about/ discuss all the things the school does as community to help other people. Is there anything else which the pupils would like to do?</p>	<p>Prayer rota (older pupils) Share with pupils that many diocese have a prayer rota on their website. This means that often lots of people in churches across Rochester/ Canterbury dioceses are praying for the school. This is an example of how the school is part of a wider Christian community. Pupils could lead prayers of intercession.</p>	
	<p>Our Community (key stage or class) John 17 v 20-23 It is important for the pupils to share fellowship with other key people who make up the school community. Invite a few people to share how they are an important part of the body of the school eg: teaching staff, admin staff, parent, governor, PTFA member, caretaker, school dinner staff, pupils!. Pupils could lead this by carrying out a short 'talk show' and interviewing the guests. Ask the pupils what they could do to make sure everyone feels included and welcome as part of a church school. Include the importance of remembering to pray for specific people in their communities.</p>	<p>Suggested praise: <i>Bind us together</i> <i>He's got the whole world in His hands</i> <i>Lord of the Dance</i></p> <p>Reflect: Ask the pupil to think of someone in their school community whom they will keep in their thoughts today</p>	