

## DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

### TERM 5/YEAR 1 /WEEK 3 - RESPONDING TO WISE ADVICE

Children like proverbs and the Bible has a whole book of them! Margaret Cooling's book "Wisdom for Worship" (now out of print but available as a free download on the Stapleford Centre website) explores lots of these but there is also scope for interpreting them in your own way.

Acknowledgement – the acts of worship outlined below are based upon those in Wisdom for Worship by Margaret Cooling.

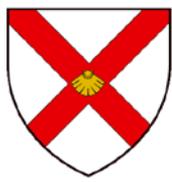
SEAL link – Getting on and falling out

Values link – Self control

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p>This week there is a focus on how we control our thoughts, our actions and our words. Display the following prayer each day for pupils to read as they gather for worship and/or play a musical version of this prayer (eg by Henry Walford Davies)</p>	<p><b>THINKING THE RIGHT THINGS (whole school)</b>  <b>Proverbs 4 v 23</b>            'Be careful how you think: your life is shaped by your thoughts.'            Use plasticine/play dough, and ask some pupils to create different shapes using some shape cutters. We can tell from the shape in the plasticine which object was pressed into it. Just as plasticine is shaped by being pressed and moulded by other things, so our lives are shaped or moulded by our thoughts. If people think life is just about having a good time, they will live one way. If people think life is about serving God and others, it will change how they live. Thoughts may be invisible but they are extremely powerful. Jesus said it was not enough to avoid being violent towards others. He taught people to avoid the thoughts that lead to violence. Jesus said it was not enough to avoid treating others badly: he taught people to avoid the thoughts which lead to the bad treatment of others.</p>	<p><b><i>Like unseen hands, our thoughts shape our lives.            Behind each destructive life,            Lie thoughts even more destructive.            Behind each loving life,            Lie thoughts that create an oasis of care.            Help us to take care of what we think, Father.            It is not enough to take care of our actions.</i></b></p>	<p>Let us go into the world to walk in God's light, to rejoice in God's love and to reflect God's glory.  <b>Amen</b></p> <p>or</p> <p>Provide a 'thought for the day' based upon the message for the day to encourage applying the message in the life of the</p>
	<p><b>WORDS HAVE CONSEQUENCES (whole school)</b>  <b>Proverbs 28 v 20-21</b>            'People have to live with the consequences of what they say. Words can preserve life or destroy it, so people must accept the consequences of their words.'            Talk about cause and effect. Give some examples eg if we push someone they fall over. Show this with some dominoes. Just as actions have consequences, so do words. Talk with pupils about the consequences of some words such as, 'I hate you.' Christians see words as a gift that brings responsibility. It is impossible to pretend that words don't matter - they do. Words have consequences in our own and other people's lives. The</p>		

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<p><i>God be in my head, and in my understanding; God be in my eyes, and in my looking; God be in my mouth, and in my speaking; God be in my heart, and in my thinking; God be at my end, and at my departing. Amen.</i></p>	<p>New Testament writer James likened the tongue to a flame which can start a forest fire (James 3.5). Just as carelessly throwing away a match can have terrible consequences in the form of a forest fire, so careless use of words can create damage in human relationships. Once the words are out, it's hard to take them back a good example getting toothpaste back in a tube. If we do use words wrongly, we need to act quickly to put the situation right. It may be impossible to get toothpaste back into the tube, but it is possible to wipe up the mess afterwards.</p>	<p><b><i>us, Father, to be responsible with our words.</i></b></p> <p>Pupils can hold up a score cards as the prayer is read. <b>1 out of 10. <i>There are times when we all deserve a score of 1. Forgive us when we fail, Lord.</i></b> <b>5 out of 10. <i>Sometimes we achieve a 5. We try hard, Lord, but know we can improve with your help.</i></b> <b>10 out of 10. <i>Nobody is perfect, Lord, but we know you rejoice in our progress.</i></b></p> <p>Encourage the pupils to give someone an encouraging word this week. Some words to help reflection: <b><i>Someone else thought I did well today. I thought so too, but I was not sure. I need their 'well done!' I need encouragement to keep trying. Most of all I need your 'well done!' God: it is not enough to rely on my own judgement. I might</i></b></p>	<p>school</p>
	<p><b>WHOSE OPINIONS REALLY MATTER? (whole school)</b> <b>Proverbs 29 v 25</b> 'It is unwise to worry about what others think of you – it's safer to trust God'. Talk about Strictly Come Dancing or Dancing on Ice and how the judges award marks out of 10 – make some cards to demonstrate this. In life, there is no panel of experts who can hold up cards to tell people how they are doing: whether their behaviour is good or bad. Describe a few situations to the pupils and ask them to award marks from 1-10. It is right to take notice of trustworthy people when thinking about how to behave, but Christians believe other people's judgements are not enough on their own - they might be wrong. If you only rely on other people to guide you in life, you could end up constantly changing your actions to suit others. Christians believe that what really matters is what God thinks. People should do what is right even if other people do not agree.</p>		
	<p><b>GOD KNOWS HOW GOOD I AM (key stage or class worship)</b> <b>Proverbs 27 v 2</b> "Let other people tell you how good you are ..... never do it yourself". Everybody likes praise, it makes us feel appreciated and encourages us. Ask the pupils to read some of the good comments they get in their books. Would it mean much to make up praise and write it yourself? Ask the pupils what they would write in their books if they could. Why does it mean more if someone else writes encouraging comments? Some people spend time praising themselves. They tell everyone how great they are. It is right to be proud of good work or good behaviour, but it is not right to boast. Christians</p>		



Diocese of  
**Rochester**

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The Diocese of  
**Canterbury**

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

	believe that God notices when people use their God-given gifts, whether that be in work, or in daily life. They believe praise should come from God and from other people .This means people need to take notice of each other, and encourage each other with praise.	<b><i>think too much, or too little of myself.</i></b>	
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