

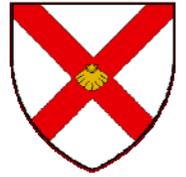
DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

TERM 1/YEAR 1/WEEK 2 - CELEBRATING GIFTS AND TALENTS

This is an opportunity to underline the value of each individual child in the school at the beginning of the school year.

SEAL link – Good to be me Values link – self-esteem, love

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p><i>At the start of the school year, be consistent for a few weeks</i></p> <p>The Lord is with us Let us praise his name together</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The Lord be with you And also with you</p> <p><i>(as week 1)</i></p>	<p>EVERYONE HAS A GIFT (whole school) I Corinthians 12 v 11 The story of Sleeping Beauty might be used to introduce the idea of gifts (you could use a DVD here or 'wrap up' the gifts in interesting parcels for pupils to come and open) What gifts or qualities would the children give to another child? Why? It is important to go on to say that Christians believe that God has given each person a special gift which he/she is responsible for taking care of and using to benefit others – this makes the link with the reading from the previous week about playing our part in the body/community/school. <i>(See Margaret Cooling Summer Assemblies B7)</i></p> <p>USING OUR GIFTS WISELY (whole school) Luke 25 v 14-29 This is Jesus' parable of the three servants/talents. It tells of a man who went away leaving three servants with money (talents) with which to make more but the third did not do as he was asked. One interpretation of the parable takes the word 'talent' as the gifts given to each person by God. How can the children make sure that they do not waste their gifts/talents? <i>(versions of this parable are not common in children's Bibles – there are versions on the internet, including one on Sermons4 kids using a Frisbee as a visual aid)</i></p> <p>THE GREATEST GIFT WHICH GOD HAS GIVEN TO EVERYBODY LOVE (whole school) I Corinthians 13 v 1-3 – the importance of love Use the example of Superman or Superwoman/hero/heroine to explore what makes someone great. Use a suitable DVD clip if possible. However, there is one gift which God has given to everybody and that is love. This is a gift that everyone can develop and which can make everyone great in God's eyes. It is</p>	<p>Use a wrapped gift as a focus for reflection. In a time of quiet, encourage pupils to thank God for a gift which God has given to them or to someone else sing the present as a visual reminder.</p> <p>Heavenly Father, Thank you that you give every person a special gift which you want them to use for others as well as for themselves. Help us to practise using our gifts so that they increase our love for you and for others. Amen</p> <p>Ask pupils to show you that they are holding the gift that God has given them</p>	<p><i>At the start of the school year, be consistent for a few weeks</i></p> <p>Use a song with a 'sending' message that all pupils sing as they leave eg You shall go out with joy or 'Shalom, shalom'</p> <p>OR</p> <p>May God grant to the world justice, truth and peace</p> <p>and make our school a place of love. Amen</p> <p><i>(as week 1)</i></p>



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	<p>greater than the examples used at the beginning of worship. Encourage pupils to share ideas with the leader and/or each other of how they can show their love for someone today. (See Margaret Cooling Spring Assemblies A2).</p>	<p>tightly in their hands. Can they see it? Can anyone else see it? Ask them to open up their hands and imagine the gift is sitting on their open hands. Dear God Help me to show my gift to you and to others . Help me to share my gift with you and with others. Amen.</p> <p><i>(You could also have a prayer box in a common area in the shape of a parcel and little parcel shapes for pupils to write their gift on to post in the box and offer it to God during the week).</i></p>	
	<p>I MATTER (Key Stage or class worship)</p> <p>Use an example such as Zacchaeus (Luke 19), the Widow’s Mite (Luke 21), Peter (Matthew 26), or Bartimaeus (Mark 10), from the Gospels – all these very different people mattered to Jesus. Choose an appropriate version to tell one of these stories.</p> <p>Whatever a child’s talents, background, age or ability – each matters as an individual to God. As well as the Biblical examples ask who is the most important person in school – you could also look at jobs outside school using props. Talk about the importance of each person – tie these in with Gospel examples – everyone matters to Jesus.</p>		