



DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

TERM 1 /YEAR 1/WEEK 3 - CELEBRATING FRIENDSHIP (Old Testament stories)

This week’s focus is friends and family – celebrating friendship and the special place which a person has within his/her particular family.
 SEAL link – relationships Values link – trust, love

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p>This is the day which the Lord has made</p> <p>Let us rejoice and be glad in it</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Lord, direct our thoughts and teach us to pray</p> <p>though Jesus Christ our Lord Amen</p>	<p>COMMITMENT (whole school) The Book of Ruth Talk about the things that ‘tie’ people together – you could illustrate this using string/rope with words attached, such as love, loyalty, friendship, trust (or do this as pupils suggest them). The story of Ruth sets the theme for talking about relationships with friends and within families, and also for talking about the tie of love and friendship with God. There are appropriate versions of the story in a number of children’s Bibles. Ask pupils why Ruth made the choice she did linking this back to your introduction. (see Margaret Cooling’s Autumn Assemblies B1)</p> <p>JONATHAN AND DAVID (whole school) I Samuel 20 Ask what someone would be prepared to do for their best friend(s). ‘You’ve got a friend in me’ from Toy Story/scenes from the DVD would help to illustrate this. Jonathan and David’s friendship is one which lasted through difficulties and dangers – even when Jonathan’s father, Saul, tried to kill David. There is a version which focuses on trust in The Barnabas Children’s Bible. It illustrates the idea of friends staying with us in time of need and could be a means of celebrating the importance and durability of the best friendships in life.</p> <p>FRIENDS FACING DANGER TOGETHER (whole school) Daniel 3 Talk about times when it helps to have someone with you in a particular situation – when you need practical help or if you need to act as one team – demonstrate this with a scenario asking pupils to help you. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego went into the fiery furnace together and King Nebucadnezzar, who was trying to kill them, saw God in the fire with them in the form of a fourth man. The friends were helping each other and God was helping them too. It is important that children understand that Christians believe that God does not necessarily prevent difficult and puzzling things from happening to them</p>	<p>Give each pupils a short piece of string or wool. As they tie a simple knot in it ask them to pray that they will show a particular attribute listed earlier – perhaps remind them of these on these on the screen. Drop these in a basket on the way out and put them in a common area as a reminder with the words displayed as well</p> <p>Dear Lord Help me be the best friend that I can be. Amen</p> <p>Then listen to ‘You’ve got a friend in me’</p> <p>Show images of stormy and sunny weather. Give time for pupils to pray that God will be with them in the hard and the easy times, in the stormy and the sunny times of their lives.</p>	<p>Learn The Grace</p> <p>The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen</p> <p><i>The leader could say this on the first day. It could be said and learned over the next two weeks. It would then become a familiar prayer of blessing to be used when needed or thought appropriate.</i></p>



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	<p>but that he is there by their side when they are sad, worried, in danger etc (see Margaret Cooling Spring Assemblies B9)</p>		
	<p>GOOD ADVICE (Key Stage or class worship) Proverbs 3 v 1-3 Proverbs and the poem suggested are offered to illustrate examples of “advice”. Good advice from parents to children is as old as time itself as the proverbs written three thousand years ago show. Would children like their parents to give them advice like this? What advice do their parents offer? Why do parents try and give wise advice? But why is it sometimes difficult to follow? Can children think of any examples of good advice? What good advice did Jesus give? (eg see week 1 – Love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and love your neighbour as yourself) The suggested poem, Ten Things Mums Never Say by Steve Turner (see Steve Turner Poems, Lion, ISBN 0-7459-4802-2), or a similar one would help illustrate the point with humour.</p>	<p>Share good advice with each other. Pray for the strength and the sense to know what advice we should follow and that we will be able to do so with God's help.</p>	