

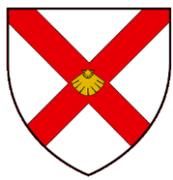
**YEAR 3/TERM 6/WEEK 1 RESPONDING TO WISDOM**

There is a type of literature in the Bible that is sometimes called 'Wisdom Literature' and an important idea in these writings is that 'the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom'. Wisdom is insight into the way life works: a proper understanding of the consequences of our thoughts, words and actions and an awareness of the true value of things. It is rooted in proper reverence for God who is the source of all life and all values (taken from 'Christian values for schools'). Some of the material is taken from Margaret Cooling's book "Wisdom for Worship" (now out of print) and used with her kind permission.

SEAL link - Good to be Me

Values link – Wisdom

<b>GATHER</b>	<b>ENGAGE</b>	<b>RESPOND</b>	<b>SEND</b>
<p>Provide some examples of 'wisdom' both Biblical and other together with images for pupils to think about</p> <p>Eg <a href="http://spiritteaching.com/words%20of%20wisdom.html">http://spiritteaching.com/words%20of%20wisdom.html</a> or similar</p>	<p><b>WISDOM ABOUT TRUE RICHES - THE RICH FOOL (whole school)</b> <b>Luke 12:13-21</b> What does it mean to be 'rich'? If the focus is on material goods, encourage pupils to think about other kinds of wealth, especially being rich in character and rich in experiences etc. Jesus tells the parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21). The pupil leadership group might present this as a drama or power-point. Although this parable may seem to be mainly about greed and obsession with money, at a deeper level it is about putting our trust or faith in the wrong things. It's about missing the point; it's about being a fool. The fool does not realize that his soul is 'on loan' from God, who can require it back whenever he likes. The fool thinks that the aim of life is to 'be happy' and he thinks that you can gain happiness by doing what you want and be gaining more and more possessions. The wise person recognizes their own limitations, trusts in God and understands that there is more to life than may be seen on the surface.</p> <p><b>WISDOM ABOUT TRUE RICHES – FROM PROVERBS (whole school)</b> <b>Proverbs 30 v 7-9 and I Kings 3 v 9</b> 'Two things I ask of you, O Lord: keep lies from me: give me neither poverty nor riches give me only my daily bread, otherwise I may have too much and forget you.' <i>You will need: A fairy wand, A felt-tipped pen and large sheet of paper.</i> Show your magic wand and ask the pupils what they would wish for if they were given two wishes. Write up their suggestions eg I would wish for new trainers, a bike, to go on holiday etc . Explain that you cannot grant their wishes as your wand does not work. Pupils can come and test its lack of power by trying to turn teachers into frogs etc. You can explain that sometimes people who win lots of money find it is very unsettling. You might want to refer to the lottery here and the Church's call for smaller amounts of prize money to be shared by a larger number of people. Friendships can be spoilt by sudden wealth. It takes a truly wise person to handle large amounts of money. What should a person who is truly wise ask God for? (eg Solomon in I Kings 3)</p>	<p>Invite pupil worship leaders to create a display or prayer area based on 'True riches'. Ask them to explain this to the other pupils as part of worship.</p> <p>Father, we often day dream about wealth. Help us to thank you for what we have, and, when we have more than we need, give us the generosity to share it.</p> <p><i>Use coins as a focus – either real or on the</i></p>	<p>Prepare a badge or sticker containing some wisdom for pupils to wear for the day or week based on one of the acts of worship for the week (perhaps worship leaders could help with this)</p> <p>When we need to listen to your wisdom today <b>Help us to hear</b> When we need to understand your wisdom</p>



**DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK**

<p>We meet in the name of God: <b>Father, Son and Holy Spirit.</b></p> <p>The grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you <b>and also with you.</b></p>	<p><b>WISDOM ABOUT OUR MOTIVES – FROM PROVERBS (whole school)</b> <b>Proverbs 16 v 2 and Luke 21 v 1-4</b> 'People may think everything they do is right, but the Lord judges not only the actions but also motives' <i>You will need: A range of items, of differing values, A charity collection tin, (home-made) or collecting plate, Ten coins (any denomination), A £5 pound note, a 1p coin.</i> Ask the pupils what £5 could buy, ask them what 1p would buy. Give one pupil a £5 note and another 1p. Ask them to come and select items they could buy for either £5 or 1p. Talk with the pupils about the difference between the two amounts. If both were put in a collection box, which would be the greater amount? Jesus told a story about a woman who gave very little, but Jesus said it was considered a great amount by God owing to her motives and circumstances. In Luke 21.1-4, there is an episode in the Temple at Jerusalem in which stood large collection boxes into which people dropped their donations as they went by. As Jesus watched, some rich people went by, dropping in huge amounts. Later, a very poor widow crept by. She dropped in two tiny copper coins. Together the coins were worth far less than 1p. Jesus turned to his disciples and said, 'That poor widow gave far more than all the others: they gave and still had plenty left over. She gave her all.' The widow was different from the others who gave large amounts because her circumstances were different. She was unlikely to be showing off in her giving, when she was so desperately poor. She was not giving her 'left over' money. Her motives must have been very strong to give everything she had. In the Bible, it constantly emphasises that God looks at motives behind giving, not the gift itself,</p>	<p><i>IWB</i> (Drop coins) Some give because they feel they have to. (Drop coins) Some give because they want to show off. (Drop coins) Some give because they have lots of spare money. (Drop coins) Some give because they feel guilty. (Drop coins) Some give because they care.</p>	<p>today <b>Help us to see</b> When we need to live your wisdom today <b>Help us to be strong</b></p> <p><i>To be said facing the open doors:</i></p> <p>To a troubled world <b>Peace from Christ</b></p>
	<p><b>BEING WISE ALL THE TIME (class or key stage)</b> <b>Proverbs 13.16 and Philippians 4 v 8</b> 'Wise people are careful to stay out of trouble, but stupid people are careless and act too quickly.' <i>You will need: A glove with some stickers on for eyes, mouth etc. or similar puppet</i> Introduce your puppet - give him/her a name. Hold the glove/puppet without putting your hand inside. Try to get the glove to wave to the children. It must refuse to do anything you ask it. Ask your puppet to run, jump, dance, hit you etc. All the time the glove must hang limp. Finally ask it what the matter is: it can whisper to you or the pupils can tell you what is wrong. 'My glove puppet says it has no mind of its own, it needs someone else's hand to control it.' Either put the glove on yourself or ask one of the children to put it on. Now tell the glove to do things. Demonstrate it running, jumping etc. Our hands and bodies do not act by themselves, they are guided by our minds, just as the glove puppet is guided by the hand and the mind of the puppeteer. Some people do not use their minds before they act. They act first and think afterwards. It's like a hand running free with no mind to guide it. Actions, like words, need careful thought, and if our minds control our actions, it is very important that we watch what we put into our minds. (see Philippians 4.8).</p>	<p><i>Use the puppet as a focus:</i> Our hands do not have a life of their own, They are ours to guide. Our bodies do not have a life of their own, They are ours to guide. Thank you Father, for minds and hearts to guide our bodies.</p>	<p>To a searching world <b>love from Christ</b> To a waiting world <b>hope from Christ</b></p>