TERM 5/YEAR 1 /WEEK 5 - RESPONDING TO OTHERS AS OUR FRIENDS

This week continues the theme of Friendship and makes use of Christian Aid material to help pupils to understand the importance of Jesus’ teaching that we must see anybody and everybody as a friend who might need our help even if we will never meet them and do not know them personally. Please note that Christian Aid week is 12-18 May in 2013 and it might be helpful for these acts of worship to coincide with this.

Acknowledgement – the final act of worship outlined below is based upon an example in ‘Wisdom for Worship’ by Margaret Cooling.

SEAL link – Relationships    Values link – Friendship

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<tr>
<th>GATHER</th>
<th>ENGAGE</th>
<th>RESPOND</th>
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<td>Use images of people helping their friends in ordinary everyday situations</td>
<td>FRIENDS NEVER LET EACH OTHER DOWN (whole school) Mark 2 v 1-12 Here are four friends who did not give up until their friend had what he most wanted and needed. Use this as an introduction to looking at what our friends might need and how we might play our small part in making sure that they receive what they need. This will lead in to looking at the needs of our friends across the world and how we can try to make the world a fairer and more equal place to live. (also see Margaret Cooling Autumn Assemblies B4)</td>
<td>Reflect on a time when you could have been a better friend. Lord God, Forgive us for the times when we have let our friends down. May we always trust in you as our friend to help us when we need to find the courage to be a braver or more loving friend in our everyday lives. We ask this in the name of Jesus. AMEN</td>
<td>Pray for an end to poverty using this prayer from the Christian Aid website</td>
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<td>Use images from the Christian Aid website (make sure that there is a good mixture of images to avoid re-inforcing possible stereotypes)</td>
<td>ANYONE WHO NEEDS ME IS MY FRIEND (whole school) Matthew 25 v 31-46 You can download resources to support this assembly from caweek.org or christianaid.org.uk/learn This gives a flavour of the presentation which is available Ask 1 pupil in every 8 to stand up. Tonight 1 in 8 people in the world will go to bed hungry. Look around; that’s a lot of hungry people in just one school: imagine how many that is around the world! What is perhaps even more shocking is that they don’t need to be hungry; there is enough food in this world for everyone to eat. Christian Aid believes that, if enough people care and ask people in charge to change things, no one should have to go hungry. And this Christian Aid Week (12-18 May) is calling on people to bite back at global hunger. Ask all pupils to sit down. Encourage pupils to consider what being hungry – really hungry – feels like. • If they were hungry every day, how would it affect their day-to-day lives? • Would they be able to do all the things they do if they were hungry? • Could they concentrate at school? • Would their moods be affected?</td>
<td></td>
<td>Creator God, You loved the world into life. Forgive us when our dreams of the future are shaped by anything other than glimpses of a kingdom of justice, peace and an end to poverty. Organise some chicken-, egg- or chocolate-related activities to help raise funds for Christian Aid Week. For more information on how to donate, visit caweek.org</td>
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‘Food Glorious Food’ might set the scene for acts of worship 2 and 3.

Then present the assembly group with this riddle:
- How could the six eggs seen earlier be used to make sure that the six pupils were full up for more than one meal?
- How could the six pupils use them to make sure they were always well fed, at every meal, both now and in the future?

The Love Food Hate Waste campaign (lovefoodhatewaste.com) estimates that ‘wasting food costs the average family with children around £50 a month, and has serious environmental implications too. If we all stop wasting food that could have been eaten, the CO2 impact would be the equivalent of taking 1 in 5 cars off the road. Pray for courage to be more responsible for our own actions in terms of waste.

FAIRNESS FOR ALL OUR FRIENDS (whole school)
Micah 6 v 8
The focus for this presentation is that of Hunger with a focus upon Sierra Leone, Kenya, and Cambodia. There is a Fed up PowerPoint presentation (available at christianaid.org.uk/learn).
This gives a sense of what the presentation is about:
Can you imagine if you were dependent on the food you could grow? How do you think that would make you feel? (Try to encourage positive as well as negative reactions; it might make you feel healthy, proud, hard-working and more connected to nature, as well as perhaps anxious and hungry.). We have heard today about some of the issues that affect people growing food around the world, and some of the challenges that can threaten their livelihoods. We’ve reflected on the abundance of food in this country – and on our sometimes wasteful attitudes to it. Surely there is something wrong in a world where so much food is wasted, yet so many go hungry. Perhaps we should all feel a bit more fed up that so many are not properly fed.

WHAT I NEED, NOT WHAT I WANT (key stage or class worship)
Proverbs 30. 7-9
‘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.’
Use a magic wand – and ask what pupils would wish for if they were given two wishes. Collect together their suggestions. Look at what the writer of Proverbs asked of God. Why do you think he asked for those two things? This person wanted to be honest and avoid lies, and he also wanted enough wealth to be safe from poverty, but not too much. Too much wealth can be dangerous. It can spoil relationships with other people and God if it is not handled wisely. People who win large amounts of money sometimes find it is very unsettling. Discuss the importance of everyone having enough to live on and the importance that the riche of the world are divided as fairly and equally as possible and our part in not being too greedy and selfish ourselves.

Incarnate God, you taught us to speak out for what is right. Make us content with nothing less than a world that is transformed into the shape of love, where poverty shall be no more.

Breath of God, let there be abundant life. Inspire us with the vision of poverty over, and give us the faith, courage and will to make it happen.

Reflect and pray
Father we often day dream about wealth, we thank you for what we have. When we have more than we need, give us the generosity to share it. AMEN