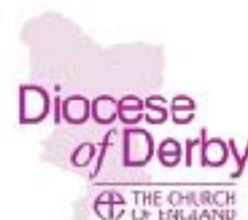


COMMUNITY (2)

Derby Diocesan Board of Education Christian Value for the Year 2017/18



Christian Value of the Year

This is the second mailing in which we focus on community. We hope that you have already had a chance to explore this with your pupils in all sorts of ways which have enabled them to appreciate and celebrate the various communities your school belongs to. Here are a few more ideas. We are delighted that Bishop Alastair is supporting this initiative as a way of marking the 90th anniversary of Derby Diocese by awarding Bishop Badges for schools. There will be a badge for one child per school for embodying a sense of community and also to a school project that helps build community. The badges will be awarded at celebration services, the date and venue will be announced shortly. You will be asked for nominations after Easter so do be giving it some thought this term.

Prayers for our Communities - an Opportunity to be Published!

We want to create a collection of prayers written by pupils, staff, governors, clergy and members of the Board of Education which we will make into a book and send into schools following on from a SIAMS inspection. The prayers don't need to be long but do need to note aspects of belonging to various communities and the events and occasions that matter to them. So, prayers to do with the life of a school community, the local community, the church community, our country and our world. Please send all submissions to alison.brown@derby.anglican.org. The closing date for this is the 20th July.

Global Neighbours

In the school mailing there is a flier promoting the Global Neighbours scheme being launched this January by Christian Aid in partnership with the Church of England Education Office. This is a new accreditation scheme for schools and will help you showcase the wonderful work you are doing to support pupils' development as 'courageous advocates'. This phrase is to be found in the new SIAMS framework and is aimed at helping pupils see themselves as being agents of change in the transformation of our world.



Community Pilgrimage

Take a leaf out of Bradwell VC Infant school's book and celebrate your community by holding a celebratory walk as the culmination of a local study. Pupils can choose the significant places to stop based on an awareness of and thankfulness for people's different contributions to the community. So places such as a residential home, local shop or library, war memorial, park could all be places where people have made a difference to the community. A thank you card could be given or a song sung or a prayer said at each place. The walk can then be finished at the local church with a short celebration service to which the whole community has been invited.

On a global scale

Take part in this year's earth hour on the 24th March 2018 <https://www.earthhour.org> or look at Unicef's Rights Respecting Schools <https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/> which offers a wide range of teaching resources to support teachers with educating children and young people about their rights and global citizenship.

Our Planet Community

There are various ways we can note how we are an inextricable part of the community of life on this wonderful planet. One approach would be to join the Quiet Garden Movement which nurtures low cost, accessible, outdoor space for prayer, contemplation, rest and inspiration. Find out more at <http://quietgarden.org>. Or what about starting an allotment on the school grounds supported by the local church or ask your gardening club to design a Peace garden?

Links with Kolkata

The Kolkata Challenge raised about £7000 for the slum schools that we support and have links with in Kolkata. You might want to challenge your pupils to find interesting ways to raise more money for this part of the global family we belong to. Go to <http://derby.anglican.org/education/schools/kolkata-school-links/> to find photos and teaching ideas about Kolkata.

Encourage your vicar, church member, parent or governor to consider going on the proposed community visit to Kolkata in October 2018. Contact alison.brown@derby.anglican.org for more information.

Joint Service

What about exploring the possibility of holding a joint Sunday morning service for parishoners, parents, community and school? Chapel-en-le Frith did just that for the first time in November. The worship was led largely by pupils using the Seeing Anew approach to collective worship and focussed on 'How do you shine your light?' The parishoners thoroughly enjoyed meeting with greater numbers than was customary and with many children present. The school was thrilled to be at the heart of such a community venture.

