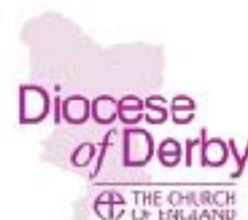


COMMUNITY (3)

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



Christian Value of the Year

This is the third 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. Watch out for the letter from the Bishop after Easter.

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.

Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. What started out as an invitation from the Archbishops' of Canterbury and York in 2016 to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer. If you go to <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/> you will find all sorts of resources for exploring prayer with children. There should be a section especially for collective worship in schools but it wasn't on the website when this went to press!



Thank your vicar week



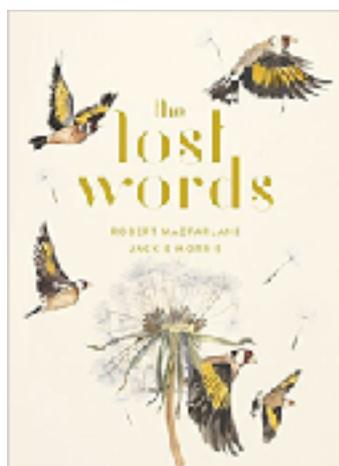
Thank your vicar week is a great opportunity for schools to celebrate and strengthen the links with their local clergy with pupil-led collective worship taking place on or near St Luke's Day. This is not until 14-21 October 2018 but with this warning you might manage to plan some wonderfully creative celebrations! As part of the celebrations schools are encouraged to give a donation or organise a simple fundraising drive to enable St Luke's to continue its work with clergy. The charity helps some 450 clergy and their families each year.

Links with Kolkata

We are looking towards our next visit to Kolkata in January 2019. If you are interested in your school having a link with a school there and in visiting it in the New Year please let Alison know. Bear in mind the value such a link is to your pupils as noted in a recent Ofsted report of St Werburgh's VA Primary: "Pupils' cultural development is enhanced through the school's link with Sukantanagar School in India. Your visit in 2017 had a significant impact on pupils. For example, pupils told me that they understand that food, water and essential clothing are not always available for the children living in the slums of Kolkata. Pupils are excited about your return visit in a few weeks' time. They are keen to find out how the funds they have raised have been used to improve life for pupils in Sukantanagar School. The link is successfully broadening pupils' horizons and preparing them well for life in modern Britain.

Share a Pencil Day 23rd May 2018

Share a Pencil Day is not a fundraiser or charity day so no need to ask anyone for money or any parental engagement. Instead it is an awareness and education day. It is a fun and interactive way for teachers and pupils to explore the reasons why millions of children globally are missing education, and why it matters. Free lesson plans, short films and classroom notes are available to participating schools, just sign up to access all the materials you will need <https://www.hope.co.uk/share-a-pencil-day/Share a Pencil Day 23rd May>



One Planet

We are part of a complex community of humans and the natural world and it is crucial that children know and love this world. However, research shows that increasing numbers of children in this country are losing that knowledge. The Lost Words is a beautiful book by Robert MacFarlane which could spark off all sorts of cross curricular work and help children reconnect. As the introduction says; 'Once upon a time, words began to vanish from the language of children. They disappeared so quietly that at first almost no one noticed - until one day they were gone.'

