



# Collective Worship Booklet

**Spring 2024**

Glorifying God through outstanding, enjoyable education



**Saint Cecilia's**  
Church of England School

Dear All,

Please find below our Collective Worship themes and verses for Spring 1.

A few things to note:

- There will be no house assemblies in the first week back.
- Mrs Joseph will give a message to all years the first week back based on character and spiritual development. To enable this, we are planning to combine year groups as follows (all in the Sports Hall):
  - Year 9 and 10: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January
  - Year 11,12 and 13: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January
  - Year 7 and 8: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January

House assemblies will pick up on different national focuses each week.

Year assemblies will have a 'Wisdom' focus, with different verses from the book of Proverbs each week. The macro theme is 'Wisdom for the New Year.'

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or if you need support for anything.

## Themes and Verses

Week	House	Year Assembly	Notes
8 <sup>th</sup> January	N/A	Headteacher's Message	<p>Year groups will be combined in Sports Hall on usual assembly days apart from Year 11s.</p> <p>9 and 10 - Wednesday 11 and Sixth Form - Thursday 7 and 8 - Friday</p> <p>Students in mentor on other days.</p>
15 <sup>th</sup> January	<p><b>Theme:</b> 'Be a good listener' (Brew Monday)</p> <p><a href="#">Brew Monday 2024   #BrewMonday</a> <a href="#"> There's always time for a cuppa and a catch-up (samaritans.org)</a></p> <p>HLs to pick up on theme of how we can be a supportive and encouraging community for each other.</p> <p>Perhaps mentors can use one of the mentor times this week to have their own version of 'Brew Monday'- bring in some snacks to share during mentor time and encourage students to have a catch up in pairs.</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Wisdom- 'Build on the right Foundations.'</p> <p><b>Verse:</b> 'Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.' (Matthew 7:24)</p>	<p>Years 9/10 to have joint assembly from Wings of Hope Charity</p>

<p>22<sup>nd</sup> January</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> ‘Fragility of Freedom’ (Holocaust Memorial Day)</p> <p><a href="#">Holocaust Memorial Day Trust   HMD 2024 Theme</a></p> <p>HLs to use content on site to deliver a talk focusing on their theme for this year: ‘The fragility of freedom’ Plenty you can use from link.</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Wisdom - ‘You may be smart but are you wise?’</p> <p><b>Verse:</b> ‘Wisdom is supreme; so acquire wisdom. And whatever you may acquire, gain understanding.’ (Proverbs 4:7)</p>	
<p>29<sup>th</sup> January</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Courageous advocacy</p> <p>See Anessa ppt.</p> <p>In preparation for SIAMS we want to revisit this and be help staff and students be clear on what courageous advocacy looks like here at Saint Cecillas.</p> <p>Mentor reps/House captains/JLT could help deliver this</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Wisdom- ‘Do not be smart in your own eyes.’</p> <p><b>Verse:</b> ‘Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.’ (Proverbs 3:5-6)</p>	
<p>5<sup>th</sup> February</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> ‘My Voice Matters’ (Children’s mental health week)</p> <p>It’s Children’s mental health week so Anessa may give further direction with House assemblies for this week but plenty of resources on the link below on their theme for this year.</p> <p><a href="#">Secondary Age Activities - Children's Mental Health Week (childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)</a></p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> ‘Wisdom- The wisdom of hard work.’</p> <p><b>Verse:</b> ‘Poor is one who works with a lazy hand, But the hand of the diligent makes rich.’ (Proverbs 10:4)</p>	

## Prayers: Starting and Ending Collective Worship

I continue to encourage Year Leaders and House Leaders to indicate the transition from any announcements that are given into Collective Worship by saying:

*'In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit...'*

Can I also remind all that we finish every day with students- whether in assemblies or mentor groups by saying the Grace prayer:

*'May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.'*

## Further Help?

Don't forget there are lots of resources on the Z drive.

For mentors, there is good guidance given in the mentors Handbook which Anessa Lee created and sent out at the start of the year. For everyone, please do not hesitate to ask me for help or feedback as you start to work on the content for your assemblies.

## Christian Meditation

Christian meditation is different to other forms, such as mindfulness, because the focus is Jesus Christ. Learning to meditate helps us face and resolve conditioned patterns of mind that need to change. It won't make any of us perfect, but it helps to calm mental agitation and negative thinking.

*'Meditation is a healing process. What is healed is the wound of our divided self that separates us from others, from God and so from our full potential.'* (John Main OSB)

## How to Meditate in Mentor Groups

Ask all mentees to sit down. Sit still and upright. Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert. Silently, concentrate on a word that you can say repeatedly in your head (for example 'Maranatha' which means 'Come Lord Jesus') or an object such as a candle that you can imagine or actually focus on. Try not to think of anything other than your word or object.

After a minute of silence, direct your mentees to run through their day so far in their heads. Pause between each instruction. *(Please use your judgement about how many of these to include but always include the final two instructions - in bold.)*

Ask them to think and reflect about:

- How they felt when they woke up this morning
- Who they interacted with at home
- Their journey to school
- How they felt when they walked in through the school gates
- Each lesson they had
- When they had worked hard
- What made them feel sad or angry during the day
- Things that had happened that made them feel happy
- **Where they feel that God had been most present in their day**
- **Then ask them to thank God for bringing them to the end of the school day and to place the rest of the day in His hands**

After a time of silent reflection, ask mentees to open their eyes and remain seated quietly. The Grace prayer can be used to finish off this time and/or The Lord's Prayer:

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever.

Amen

