



Collective Worship Booklet

Summer 1 2022

19th April – 27th May 2022



Wisdom

Themes and Verses

Week	House	Year Assembly
25 th April (Autism week)	<p>Theme: Wisdom – For friendships Verse: “One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother.” (Proverbs 18:24)</p> <p>Content: This assembly should challenge students about what they look for in a good friend and what kind of friend they are themselves. Are your friendships based on looking a certain way or having certain things? Do you choose friends based on character or popularity? Are your friends building you up and making you sharper or are they pulling you down towards the wrong things and therefore making you less sharp, less effective? This kind of friendship will only lead to “ruin” according to the verse. Is your friendship strong enough to pass the test of truth or do you just mollycuddle each other and tell each other what you want to hear? The theme verse says “a real friend will stick close to you no matter what.”</p>	<p>Theme: Wisdom – For friendships Verse: “One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother.” (Proverbs 18:24)</p> <p>Content: Since April is Autism acceptance month (https://www.autismtogether.co.uk/autism-acceptance-month/) let’s take the opportunity to look at how we relate with those with SEN in our school community. How well do we understand autism? How can we better support those who are autistic? This is what friendships are about, not what can I get, but what can I give?</p>
Mentor Prayer	<p>God of all wisdom, thank You that You are not far off, but are near and interested in our lives and our relationships. We ask for Your wisdom in the area of friendships. Help us to make wise choices. Help us to be honest and self-reflective. Help us to be positive, caring, trustworthy friends to those we love. May we also not settle for anything less in return. Please bless and strengthen the good friendships that we already have. In Jesus name. Amen.</p>	

Week	House	Year Assembly
2 nd May	<p>Theme: Wisdom – For Finances Verse: “Dishonest wealth will dwindle, but what is earned through hard work will be multiplied.” (Proverbs 13:11)</p> <p>Content: The Bible warns us about the very real temptation to make money through dishonest means. Even if you do, it will dwindle away! You won’t really be able to enjoy it. You will never have peace of mind or a clear conscience. Money can’t buy peace or happiness! However, don’t misunderstand the verse for saying ‘having money or being rich is bad.’ The verse goes on to say “<i>what is earned through hard work will be multiplied</i>”. That hard work starts now, you are laying foundations for your future.</p>	<p>Theme: Wisdom – For Finances Verse: “Dishonest wealth will dwindle, but what is earned through hard work will be multiplied.” (Proverbs 13:11)</p> <p>Content: We’ve been thinking about what the Bible has to say about our relationship with money this week: Dishonest wealth will dwindle, but what is earned through hard work will be multiplied. However, whether we are rich or not is not the most important thing. Another verse in Proverbs says “<i>A good name [earned by honourable behaviour, godly wisdom, moral courage, and personal integrity] is more desirable than great riches</i>” (Proverbs 22:1). In a time where there is so much emphasis on what other people do with your name (I constantly hear “put some respect on my name” “why is my name in Joe Blogg’s mouth” or more recently “keep my wife’s name out your mouth!”) what kind of name are you building for yourself? Are you making choices that will lead to a good name in future or are you making choices that are short-sighted with only temporary rewards.</p>
Mentor Prayer	<p>God of all wisdom, thank You that You are not far off, but are near and interested in our lives and our attitudes towards finances. Please give us wisdom in how we view money and wealth. Lord, please shine a light on our heart and motives, so that money would not be an idol in our lives. Please help us to let go of any unhealthy attitudes that we may have consciously or unconsciously taken on from different sources. Help us to be willing to work towards financial freedom in the future through hard work and diligence in the present. We ask it in Jesus name.</p>	

Week	House	Year Assembly
9 th May	<p>Theme: Wisdom – For Future Verse: “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>Content: When it comes to thinking about the future, it can be an area that so easily lends itself to anxiety. Attitudes also tend to vary among young people from being so short-sighted and not giving any attention to the future to worrying too much about the future, that they are almost crippled in the present. The encouragement from the verse is to ‘trust’ rather than worry; seek godly wisdom from those around you, rather than just lean on our own understanding. <i>(HLs could record short interviews with staff members asking what advice they would give to students or what helped them in making choices for their futures.)</i></p>	<p>Theme: Wisdom – For Future Verse: “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>Content: Often anxieties about the future comes from feeling we need to have Plan A, B, C all the way to Z for our lives. The weight of expectation can sometimes come from within ourselves, or from friends/family or from wider society. Either way, it is a very heavy weight to carry. What is a wise approach for thinking about the future as a teenager? Some principles can be explored but ultimately a lot of it comes down to the daily choices we are making in the present. Don’t be too afraid of making mistakes. Often, it’s as you take one step, that the next step(s) becomes clearer. Solomon encourages his readers to involve God in the process, rather than just go solo or ‘lean on your own understanding.’ Those who do involve God, will find that God makes your paths straight” Whilst this is a great principle to take hold of, it is not to be mistaken for saying ‘God will make everything straightforward or crystal clear”</p>
Mentor Prayer	<p>God of all wisdom, thank You that You are not far off, but are near and interested in our lives and our futures. We pray that you would lift off any anxieties or fears about the future and help us to have hope for our futures. Please give us wisdom to make the choices in the present that will lead us to accomplish our ambitions for the future. We pray especially for Year 11s and 13s who will be making big transitions in the next few months. Please guide their steps and surround them with your love and comfort as they take those steps. In Jesus name.</p>	

Week	House	Year Assembly
16 th May	<p>Theme: Wisdom for Discipline Verse: Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid. (Proverbs 12:1)</p> <p>Content: In looking at Discipline this week, we will explore both the aspects of self- discipline as well as discipline from others (teachers, parents etc.) In this assembly, we are looking at self-discipline or self-control. Those who are familiar with the ‘fruit of the spirit’ will remember that it is one of the things listed. Proverbs 25:28 says: “A person without self-control is like a city with broken-down walls.”</p> <p>This assembly will explore the implications of this verse and the ramifications of a lack of self-control.</p>	<p>Theme: Wisdom for Discipline Verse: Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid. (Proverbs 12:1)</p> <p>Content: Having looked at Self-discipline in House assemblies, this assembly will look at how we receive discipline from others. The theme verse says: “Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid” (Proverbs 12:1); so do you love it or hate it?</p> <p>This assembly should challenge students who may still be living with “I just want to do what I want” attitude which the Bible describes as stupidity (strong words!). The opposite of this must therefore be wisdom: having the maturity to take correction/constructive feedback and then the discipline to act on it.</p>
Mentor Prayer	<p>God of all wisdom, thank You that You are not far off, but are near and interested in our lives and our futures. Please give us the wisdom we need to be self-disciplined and to have self-control. Please give us the grace to say “no” to the things that we know do not honour you and are against our conscience. Please give us the determination and perseverance to pursue the things that are good for us- no matter how hard they are to achieve. Please give us wisdom to know the things to hold on to and the things to let go of. We ask all of this in Jesus name. Amen.</p>	

Week	House	Year Assembly
23 rd May	<p>Theme: Wisdom: Looking to God (Prayer)</p> <p>Verse: If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.” (James 1:5)</p>	<p>Theme: Wisdom: Looking to God (Prayer)</p> <p>Verse: If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.” (James 1:5)</p>
<p>More details to come</p>	<p>Why Pray animation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVHUx_EJnUs</p> <p>What is Prayer animation https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LG_3pX88fM</p> <p>Thy Kingdom come</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3k3plwVqisA</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jguu74fnrSs</p>	

Prayers: Starting and ending Collective worship

I continue to encourage YLs and HLs 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

