

**Plan for Spaces for Remembrance
Carswell Community School
Tuesday 8th - Thursday 10th November 2016**

**Setting up on Tues 8th morning in school time, taking down on Thursday afternoon
Open for families after school on Wednesday**

Proposal:

Use school hall - divided by curtains & gazebos,
to give four prayer spaces & a central "settling area"

4 prayer zones on theme of remembering:

- what helps - plasma ball
- we're special - fingerprints
- others - pipe-cleaner people
- we can change things - fruit pledges

50mins per class:

- 8 min - in, settle, explain
- 8 mins x 4 sessions = 32 minutes
- 10 minutes - gathering,

Tuesday 1:00-1:50; 2:00-2:50

Wednesday 9:00-9:50; 10:00-10:50; 11:10-12:00; 1:00-1:50; 2:00-2:50

Thursday 9:00-9:50; 10:00-10:50; 11:10-12:00

Prayer Spaces open after school on Wednesday, for children and adults

Spaces for Remembrance

Introduction:

November is a special month.

What happens on November 5th? Rhyme.

On 11th we have Remembrance Day - when we remember?

So our theme today is remembering.

But instead of remembering plots and war, we'll be thinking about other things to remember,
that will help us grow as people.

Workshop 1: Remembering what helps - the Plasma ball.

Many faiths use light as a symbol - can you think why? (*warm, comforting, safe, shows the way*)

We sometimes say that someone lights up our life - they cheer us up, or inspire us to do good things.

Can you try to think of a person, or place, or maybe a memory, that lights up your life?

Pause for the children to think - no need for answers

Now watch what happens when I put my hands on the glass (move hands towards plasma ball)

When I reach out, the light grows and moves towards me

- but I have to move towards it to make it happen.

Allow time for excitement to calm down

In just the same way, if we want our lives lit up, we need to reach out to those things that will help us

- to think of good things, to ask for advice or accept help.

In a moment, you can take it in turns to rest your hands on the glass.

As you watch the light, try to think what helps you make the right choices and grow as a person

- a person, a memory, or your faith.

Carefully allow children to take turns at the ball. Keep things calm!

For conversation while they take turns

Some people say that the plasma ball reminds them of God.....

Whatever it is that lights your way, reach out by remembering it whenever you're facing a challenge. Just like the light, it'll help you to warm, safe and strong.

Workshop 2 – Remembering we're special

Black ink pads

Hand wipes

Pens

Have you ever looked at your finger-tips? *(allow children time to do this)*

If you look carefully, you'll see lines & curls, circles & swoops. That's what makes your finger-print.

Everybody's fingerprint is unique, no two fingerprints are the same.

You are unique, too.

No-one else has the same personality as you. Nobody can replace you - the world would not be the same without you.

I'd like you to sit quietly now and try to think what makes you special.

Maybe you're good at helping people, or listening. Maybe you help keep others cheerful.

Press one finger onto the ink pad and leave a fingerprint on the card. Alongside it, write one thing that makes you special. If you see anyone struggling to know what to say, tell them why they're special to you.

Encourage children to wipe their fingers while they wait for others to finish

People of faith believe that God loves everyone.

Whoever we are, we all have people who care about us and we all have something to offer the world.

Workshop 3: Remembering others

It's easy to remember our own problems and needs, but sometimes we forget that other people have problems too. It might be a friend who's finding things hard, someone who's poorly or having money troubles. We might not be able to solve their problems, but we can still help.

I'm going to give everyone two pipecleaners.

While I'm doing that, I'd like you to think of someone you'd like to help.

Offer each child two pipecleaners. While handing them out:

Have you all thought of someone who needs some help?

I'd like you to imagine that one pipecleaner is that person and one is you.

Now link them together *(demonstrate)*

Show the children how to fold both sets of ends into legs & head/arms to create a new person.

You've made a person!

If you get alongside people who are feeling down & show them you care,

you can help make them feel like new people.

Workshop 4: Remembering we can change things

Bare branches

Leaves/apples- post-its or paper & blu-tack

Pens

At harvest time, we remembered all the wonderful fruit that grow on trees - it makes the trees useful, and pretty, too.

Sometimes we talk about people bearing fruit - can you think what that means? (*briefly discuss*)

Just like trees, people are much nicer when they are helpful - when they bear fruit.

In the corner of the tent we have the branches of our tree. Stay quietly now and think of one thing you could do today to help the world be better place. It might be recycling something or helping someone, or it might be something you'd like to do in the long-term to help the world.

If you'd like to, take a fruit/leaf & write on it what you could do to help make the world a better place.

Then stick it your fruit onto the branches.

Distribute post-its & pens

Some people think prayer is about giving God a shopping list of things to do. They forget that prayer is about what we can do, too. Prayer gives us a chance to stop and think - to listen to our conscience or talk to our God. It gives us a chance to think what we could be doing to help things along.

Conclusion:

We said we were going to look at four things we needed to remember.

Can you think what they were?

- *to reach out for help*
- *that we're special*
- *to remember others*
- *that we can change things.*

We've made a few changes to the rhyme about Bonfire night, to help you remember

What we've been doing today:

"Remember remember, we all are a member

Of a world that matters a lot

And that is the reason

In every season

To make full use of all we've got."