

# Primary assembly

Education Sunday 2012

## LEARNING AND SERVING

### PowerPoint and music as children enter

(PowerPoint can be found at [www.educationsunday.org.uk](http://www.educationsunday.org.uk))

### Suggested music

Fragile by Sting  
High Tide or Low Tide by Bob Marley  
Why? by Tracy Chapman



### Thoughts

Education Sunday 2012 focuses on those who serve, those who are famous and those who are only known to a few people; those who serve children and young people in schools as teachers, teaching assistants, cleaners, cooks, lunchtime supervisors and governors; those who serve in clubs and uniformed organisations, giving their time freely serving young people and their communities.

As well as the Olympic Games in London, 2012 sees the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, who has willingly served our country and people for 60 years. In their eighties most people have given up work and are enjoying their retirement, but the Queen still continues to work hard to serve her people.

Education Sunday also looks at education and its importance. Many people take education in this country for granted and don't realise how lucky they are. The riots in London, Manchester and across the country in the summer of 2011 saw young people take to the streets, often looting and believing that the world owed them a living. Through a short drama children may begin to stop and think about their attitude to school, their education and what they really want to achieve.

More information about Agnes can be found at <http://www.worldaims.org.uk/content/resources.asp#load> and search for Agnes or alternatively explore the site.

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## Drama

Mum: Danny come on. Wake up, time for school.

Danny: Go away!

Mum: Come on, wake up.

Danny: Go away, it's too early.

Mum: It's quarter to eight. You've got 30 minutes to be up, dressed, have breakfast and be out of the door ready for school.

Danny: Too early and don't want to go to school!

Mum: I don't care what you want, you've got to go! Come on, move yourself! You've got precisely 10 seconds to be out of bed or you won't get a lift and you'll be late!

Danny: Oh mum!

Auntie: Agnes, have you finished your chores?

Agnes: Yes auntie, I was up at five. I've collected the water, washed the dishes and swept the floor.

Auntie: Well done. If you hurry you should be in time for school.

Agnes: I've got time, lessons don't start until 7.30 and it will only take me an hour to walk, I'll just put my uniform on.

Narrator: The second Millennium Development Goal is primary education for all, by 2015. This was agreed by the United Nations, this target is unlikely to be met.

Mum: Danny, are you up yet?

Danny: Yes, mum.

Mum: You really need to hurry up. You're going to be late.

Danny: No I won't. I've got plenty of time. Is my breakfast ready?

Mum: Yes it's on the table. Isn't it about time you started to do it yourself?

Danny: But I like you doing it. Do I really have to go to school?

Mum: Yes you do and you need to start to think about other people. You need to think about what you can do to help

Danny: Do I have to?

Narrator: Mark Chapter 1, verse 33 says 'The whole town gathered at the door'. Who was in the house? Where, and when, does a whole town gather these days? At times of national or local tragedy? In protest, maybe? Certainly in celebration of a local Olympian or football team. Here they gathered for one reason. The man inside the house was Jesus, a man prepared to serve.

Danny: Mum, why should I go to school? I want to be a footballer, you don't need qualifications for that.

Mum: The chance of you being a footballer are slim, you have to work hard and you tend to be a bit on the lazy side!

Danny: But mum.....

Mum: Danny no more arguments. In the car - we're leaving.

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## Talk

Danny is a typical child in this country. Like many he doesn't want to get up and go to school in the morning. He takes school for granted and thinks he is going to be famous. Agnes is a girl growing up in Malawi. Agnes would like to be a pilot when she is older, so she can see the world. Danny could be anything he set his mind to if he works hard. Agnes will probably not receive much more than primary education, but is determined and doesn't complain about the jobs she has to do in her home, or that she has to walk for an hour before she gets to school. Jesus used the skills he had to serve others. He didn't huff and puff and whine and complain; he willingly served others. There are many people who willingly serve others: some are highly educated, while others have just worked hard. So while you go through your lessons today, think about Agnes working hard, trying really hard, to get an education. Think about what you want,;what do you want to do with your education? Think about how you can serve others, perhaps help at home and remember to say thank you to all those people who do things for you.

## Songs/Hymns

Shaped for Serving God – Doug Horley (Can be found at this link)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5-mowlR1OU>

The Servant King – Graham Kendrick

Beauty for Brokenness – Graham Kendrick

Faith as small as a Mustard Seed – Doug Horley

Make me a Channel of Your Peace – Prayer of St Francis

## Prayer

Dear God,

We thank you for all those people who serve others; those who get paid and those who don't. Help us to remember our teachers, classroom assistants, our cleaners, those who work in the office, those who work at lunchtime and all our governors and other volunteers who give up their time for us. We thank you for all the people who serve us outside of school, especially our families. Help us to remember to say thank you. Please help us to remember how lucky we are, that our education is free and means that we can be anything we want to be. Help us to be everything that we can be and help us to serve others. Amen

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The Education Sunday 2012 theme was devised by an ecumenical steering group co-ordinated by Churches Together in England representing the following Christian denominations and organisations: the Association of Christian Teachers, the Baptist Union, the Catholic Church, the Church of England and the National Society, the Methodist Church, The Salvation Army, the Student Christian Movement and the United Reformed Church. The material in this resource was written and sourced by members of the Education Sunday steering group. All worship material in this publication may be freely copied for single-occasion use as part of Christian worship. Any organisations or individuals wishing to reproduce this material in any other circumstances should seek prior permission from the Education Sunday Steering Group, Churches Together in England, 27 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HH.

