

New Beginnings

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!

Isaiah 43:18-19

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

REMEMBER

Each reflection point must cover at least one key text from ‘

This session should be a minimum of 60 minutes, but no more than 90 minutes.

An example on how you may want to lead the day as a leader is set out below, identifying the key objectives of the session, Explore, Understand and Reflect.

Time	Sample Session Layout
0.00	<p>Group Arrives and Settle Down</p> <p>Icebreaker <i>For Example: Throughout this reflection point you will be talking about new beginnings an Icebreaker could be that each student shares something they have enjoyed within their time at primary school.</i></p>
0.10	<p>Introduction of the theme (EXPLORE) <i>The theme of new beginnings. This can be an important theme for you as you are going up to year 7 and this can be quite a scary time, this theme will allow you to know that God is there with you no matter what.</i></p> <p><i>One story that highlights a new beginning is the story of Noah’s ark and most of you will know of the story or have heard something about it. But to remind ourselves we will listen to the story of Noah’s Ark from Genesis 6-9 (Edit down as appropriate).</i></p> <p><i>Feedback from the scripture: What stands out for you in the story? What is your favourite bit of the story? Is there anything about the story you don’t like, or that you are unsure about? Why do you think that story can help us think about new beginnings?</i></p> <p><i>That story tells us that Noah and his family were living their life and then God gave them a challenge to move on. They were uncertain about how this new beginning would work out for them. They were nervous about the new start they were about to take. But they trusted in God and prepared for the journey and the new beginning God was asking them to take.</i></p> <p><i>We might be nervous about any new beginning. And starting a new school will certainly be a new beginning. And we might wonder how that will be for us? And we might have lots of worries and anxieties. But we have to believe that just as God was with Noah so he is also with us on our journey through life and any new beginning we take.</i></p> <p><i>However, it is important that, like Noah, we also prepare for the new beginning we are asked to take.</i></p>
0.25	<p>Questionnaire – with final instruction to read all questions first.</p>
0.40	<p>Feedback and Explanation (UNDERSTAND)</p>

That activity gave you a very clear set of instructions. But how many of you actually read them all? Sometimes we don't prepare as we ought. And if we don't prepare then the results are not as good as if we had prepared.

That is what Noah did in the video we watched earlier. Noah spent time preparing for the journey that God was asking him to undertake.

So, we can ask what we are doing to prepare for this new beginning you are about to start.

Discussion

What are you doing to prepare for your new beginning? Try to get some feedback. New uniform, new books/stationary, open days, talking to friends about the new beginning.

One thing we can do to prepare is to remember that God is with us on this part of the journey. And that we are not left alone. Noah was not alone on the Ark – God was with him to give him help and support. So, it is the same with us – God is with us as we take our leave of this school and have a new beginning in another school.

0.50

Liturgy (REFLECT)

Think about your journey of faith so far.

I know some of us have challenged ourselves already to challenge ourselves to live out this message of trying new whilst completing the FIA award such as maybe doing a sponsored silence or sponsored walk.

*Now take time to think about the scripture '**Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!**' Isaiah 43:18-19 with the scripture take some time to see what it means to you. Think about:*

What are the things in the past that you want to forget about?

Although we may have done new things this year to live out this reflection point and that is brilliant, but we are challenged to live out this in our day to day lives especially next year?

So, what are the things you are looking forward to when you get to High school? this might be trying new things or learning new subjects.

How are you going to try new things when you get to high school? Are you going to be joining new clubs? Making new friends?

Now take some time to maybe write down in your FIA journals the different new challenges you have completed and maybe some you might want to try when you get to high school.

Let's now reflect on the pathways that God has made clear and the unexpected detours he has walked you through, while never leaving your side, and think about your journey that you are about to embark on and the new fresh start you are going to receive.

It might seem scary but know that God is going to be with you.

Pray about your journey with God and, when you are ready draw around your feet on the paper, to see the steps you have taken throughout your life (or use the foot template), to depict your unique path of faith.

Pray about your walk with God. And write in your footsteps your worries and hopes for the coming year and ask God to continue to guide your path as you seek to walk as he walked in the world.

- 0.60 Closing Prayer: Faith in Action Prayer
Invite the young people to participate in saying the prayer.
- 0.65 Session Ends

NAME _____

SCORE _____

FOLLOW DIRECTIONS

1. Read everything carefully before doing anything.
2. Put your name in the upper right-hand corner of this page.
3. Circle the word NAME in sentence two.
4. Hop across the room and back again.
5. Now draw an alien on the back of the paper.
6. Raise your hand and when someone asks you if you are okay say 'I am on number six'.
7. Clap your hands 7 times.
8. Stand up and do 10 star jumps.
9. Scribble out the alien on the back of your paper.
10. Practice your best evil laugh for 5 seconds.
11. Sing the chorus of a well-known song.
12. On the back of this paper, multiply 56 by 66.
13. Now do your best monkey impression.
14. Loudly call out your first name when you get this far along.
15. If you have followed directions carefully to this point, call out, "I have."
16. Stomp your feet 5 times.
17. Stand up and count backwards from 10.
18. Punch three small holes in the top of this paper with your pencil point.
19. If you are the first person to reach this point, LOUDLY, call out, I AM THE FIRST PERSON TO REACH THIS POINT, AND I AM THE LEADER IN FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS."
20. Underline all even numbers on the left side of this paper.
21. Loudly call out, "I AM NEARLY FINISHED. I HAVE FOLLOWED DIRECTIONS."
22. Now that you have finished reading everything, do NOT complete any of the tasks above apart from sentences 1 and 2! Sit Back and observe the others 'Follow Instructions'.

TEAM NAME _____

SCORE _____

DIRECTIONS QUIZ

FOLLOW DIRECTIONS

1. Read everything carefully before doing anything.
2. Put your team name in the upper right-hand corner of this page.
3. Circle the word NAME in sentence two.
4. Hop across the room and back again.
5. Now draw an alien on the back of this piece of paper.
6. Raise your hand and when someone asks you if you are okay say 'I am on number six'.
7. Clap your hands 7 times.
8. Stand up and do 10 star jumps.
9. As a group sing a well-known song all together.
10. Scribble out the alien on the back of your paper.
11. Now do your best monkey impression.
12. Practice your best evil laugh for 5 seconds.
13. On the back of this paper, multiply 56 by 66.
14. Stand up and count backwards from 10.
15. Loudly call out your first name when you get this far along.
16. If you have followed directions carefully to this point, call out, "I have."
17. Stomp your feet 5 times.
18. Punch three small holes in the top of this paper with your pencil point.
19. If you are the first person to reach this point, LOUDLY, call out, I AM THE FIRST PERSON TO REACH THIS POINT, AND I AM THE LEADER IN FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS."
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FOOT TEMPLATES

