



New Year

PRIMARY ASSEMBLY

Additional Resources

PowerPoint presentation

Video clip

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKdO2JQy3BM

Can we start again?

Aim

To know that fresh starts are possible.

To know that Christians believe Jesus helps people to 'start again'.

Introduction

Introduce yourself and welcome pupils to assembly. BUT - get your name and the name of the school wrong. Ask the pupils 'Can I start again?' And re-do the introduction.

It's so annoying. I was so looking forward to today. I was looking forward to seeing you all after your holiday break. Looking so bright and fresh from your holiday; with new things and new stories - and new haircuts, some of you! And to get things wrong so quickly. It was good to have a fresh start. Thank you.

Main Talk

Sometimes, when things go wrong, it makes us feel really upset and angry and annoyed. *Model scrunching up your face and hunching your shoulders. Encourage the pupils to participate.* But when we get a chance to start again, it gives us a chance to show what we can really do - a fresh start. *Model pushing shoulders back, relaxing facial features and taking deep breaths.*

There are lots of fresh starts in life. We often say that the start of a new year is the opportunity for a fresh start. But I think we get a lot more than that. When you get something wrong, there is always a way to have a fresh start.

When you make a mistake in your lesson, you get a chance to correct it, to learn and to get it right another time. When you make a mistake with your behaviour, you get a chance to say sorry and start again.

Watch this clip www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKdO2JQy3BM Watch the first 60 - 90 seconds.

'Can we start again?' Jessie J's performance was a lot better the second time, wasn't it! She didn't wait for the next day or the next programme, or the next year. 'Can we start again?' she said right there and then. It's not easy. It takes a lot of courage, but everything was better because of it.

Next time something goes wrong, whether you make a mistake in a lesson or behave in a way you wished you hadn't, just try taking a deep breath and saying, 'Can I start again?'

I wonder what would happen.





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Salvation Army Perspective

The Salvation Army is committed to helping people to start again. The Salvation Army runs programmes to support people looking for work. It supports prisoners and their families. It helps people who are homeless or who are addicted to drugs. It runs community projects. But why does The Salvation Army do this? Because they are following the teachings of Jesus.

Christian Perspective

Christians believe that God sent his Son, Jesus, to earth. Jesus showed people a new way of living, of loving one another. Jesus helped many people to start over again, to live a new way.

Challenge and Reflection

Take a moment to think about you - where you might need to 'start again': maybe with your school work, or with a friendship, or with a type of behaviour. What would help you to take that first step in starting again? Take a moment to think about how you could help others to start afresh too. What would you say or do if someone says to you - '*Can I start again?*'

Pause for a short reflection time.

Thank the pupils and staff for letting you be a part of their assembly.