



New Year

PRIMARY ASSEMBLY

Additional Resources

PowerPoint presentation

Two balloons, one with a long string or scarf attached

Small Change, Big Difference

Aims

To understand that many people start the New Year by making decisions about self-improvement.

To reflect on how we can make a small change to improve our behaviour.

Introduction

Welcome children and teachers to assembly and introduce yourself. Wish the children a Happy New Year.

During the holidays we may have been fortunate enough to get something new. New toys, new clothes, new haircut! But we all get a new year together. This brings the possibility to make it an even better year than the year before.

Main Talk

Today I am going to talk to you about small changes and the big difference they can make and that these small changes can help make this an even better new year.

Ask for a couple of volunteers - older children may have better co-ordination. Throw the balloon to each child. Highlight how tricky it can be to catch it. What one small thing could we change to make it easier to catch? Take a variety of suggestions. Now demonstrate throwing a balloon with a long ribbon or scarf attached - much easier to catch! One small change to the balloon made a big difference.

Personal stories - please borrow or change to suit. When I was younger I hated eating any vegetable that was green. I absolutely hated them. But then my Mum started cutting them up really small and mixing it up with my mashed potatoes. Yummy! I enjoyed eating my green vegetables and my Mum was happy that I was eating was more healthy. A small change made a big difference.

My doctor said I had to cut down on sweet things, so I stopped taking a teaspoon of sugar in my tea. It didn't take long before I was enjoying my morning cuppa just as much and my doctor was happy too. I was having less sugar, so I was healthier. A small change made a big difference.

My friend's baby was having trouble sleeping at night which meant no one else in the house could sleep either! So they gave her a really soft teddy to cuddle up with and now she sleeps a lot better. The baby sleeps well, so now everyone in the house sleeps better too. A small change can make a big difference.





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A small change in our behaviour can make a big difference for the better. Imagine if you came to school and said a big, happy 'Good morning' to your teacher every day. What difference would that make? *Take a variety of suggestions.* What a happy way to start your learning every day!

Does your Mum always say 'He never hangs his coat up'? Imagine if you made sure your coat was always hanging up - at home and at school. What difference would that make? *Take a variety of suggestions.* Wouldn't that make your Mum happier and the school a little bit tidier? A small change can make a big difference.

A small change in our behaviour can make everyone a little bit happier, a little bit calmer. It helps makes all our lives a little bit better.

Christian Perspective

Christians are taught in the Bible to help one another, to look after one another, to love one another: **1 John 3:23** - 'Love one another.' Making a decision about changing our behaviour is a way of showing love to one another, to show that you care. It's not always easy to do or easy to remember. So start with a small change, and remember, it could lead to a big difference.

Challenge and Reflection

The beginning of a New Year is a good time to think about what we can do to make it an even better New Year. Can you think of one small way you could change your behaviour? Some small way that - if you keep the change - will make a big difference? *Take some ideas and share the list from the presentation.* Let's make it an even better and happier New Year! *Pause for short reflection time.*

Thank the school for inviting you to be a part of their Christmas assembly.