

## 13. Your journey – to boldly go!!

**Age range:** Primary

**Theme:** We gather as a community for collective worship that is **inspiring, invitational and inclusive**, reflecting the fact that we are a part of a diverse school family and the wider church community. *This is part of our new series (and with apologies for the split infinitive!) 'To boldly go....'. You may need to tailor this script to suit the needs, age range & levels of concerns of your school community, which of course includes adults as well as children. This final collective worship of the term gives you the opportunity to reflect on the journey you've been on – this term, but also across the year(s)! Although especially aimed at those who might be leaving your school community, the story is for everyone – you might want to make this clear during your time together this week.*



### How does this link to your school's Christian vision & values?

This week, you will want to specifically reference your school's values and the things that have been a part of your school's unique vision as you say farewell to the term, and some of your children. If you need them, there are some free resources available to you to put on a special Leavers' Service for any Y2 or Y6 children, here: [Leavers resources - Diocese of Guildford](#)

### Resources:

- The PowerPoint slides are numbered with a point in the script so you can find your way, and the parts in **bold** show you where to click on to activate the next slide or animation.
- Today's rucksack object: all the objects listed on the story script (p4)** You will also need to print the luggage label with the Bible verse on (p.6), add some string to it and put this into the rucksack before you pack the objects in the order listed (reverse story order). There is a slide in the PowerPoint for each object in the story – you will need to insert your school logo on the passport on slide 7. Remove these slides if you feel they will detract from the reflective story.
- For your reflective area this week** you will need some copies of the finger labyrinth, here: [finger labyrinths.pdf - Google Drive](#) and a luggage label with the verse on p6 printed on as a reminder. You will also need some blank luggage labels. If you wanted to, you could use the sheet of Bible verses on p. 7 to print on paper labels and stick one on each blank label so children can take one away as a reminder for the future. Card luggage labels can be easily purchased from most stationers (or online!)

### Gathering:

**Slide 1 or 2 [choose whichever image you prefer, or use them in rotation]:**

Use the greeting for this term

**Leader:** We are on this journey together...

**Children:** We are friends along the way...

**ALL: May God go with us.**

### BSL interpretation:

Sign for 'way' (nearest to the idea of 'journey'): [British Sign Language BSL Video Dictionary - way](#)

Sign for 'friends': [British Sign Language: friends](#)

Sign for 'God': [British Sign Language BSL Video Dictionary - God](#)



Sign for 'go with us' – we have invented this! After you've signed 'God', bring your finger down alongside your other finger and make them 'journey together' in front of you.



### Engaging:

- Slide 3: To boldly go....** We have been on a journey this term – 'boldly going' together! I wonder what you've enjoyed the most....or learnt from the most? *[Recap what you've experienced together during your 'journeying' assemblies, maybe using the pages of the reflection journal (Passport) if you used it.]* Here's a reminder of some of the places we've been and the people who've shared their wisdom with us...
- Slide 4:** *[Recap what you've experienced together during your 'journeying' assemblies, maybe using the pages of the reflection journal (Passport) if you used it. Encourage children to talk about the journeys that have impacted them during the term. There are a few pictures to help remind you..... From L-R, top-bottom (not in week order!): Thomas Stevens; Amelia Earhart; Hajj & the story of Hajar; Guru Nanak and the needle; climbing Everest, trust; Moon landing & the women who made it happen; Buddha's wisdom*



*for the journey; Paul's conversion & adventures; Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost]* We've come to the end of this journey together today and are going to take some time now to think about what God might have to say to us as we all get closer to the end of term, and for some of you, the end of your time at our school.

- **Slide 5:** But first, another story using all the objects that we packed for this term! It's a story about **Your Journey** with us....*[use script on p.4, with slides 6-15]*

#### **Slide 16: Responding (and words for worship):**

Let's be quiet as we come to the end of this time together today.

In the stillness now....

...Think about the people who have helped you and been with you so far this year....

....your family.....your teachers.....your friends.....

....It's good to know that all these people have been 'with us' in many different ways.....

....we have also been on many journeys and adventures this term.....

..... **I wonder which have made you think?.....**

**....or which might encourage you at the end of this school year?....**

....We've also heard the words of Jesus today, spoken to his friends the disciples as he ascended to heaven, to reassure them as they faced new challenges.

**....I wonder what difference Jesus' words might have made for them?....**

**.....or what difference these words might make to us as we 'boldly go'?!....**

Now I'm going to pray. If you agree with what I'm saying and would like to make the prayer your own, then please join me by saying 'Amen' at the end:

#### **Slide 17: Dear God**

**Thank you for all the people who have been with us during this year – our families, friends and teachers. Thank you that you promise to go with us as we take one more step along the world. Please help us to remember that just as you were with all those people from the Bible, you promise to be with us too.**

#### **Slide 18: Amen**

#### **Slide 19: Optional extra blessing, which you might want to say over one another before you leave:**

It's a blessing we've used before, and it's very old, probably from Ireland (which is one part of the British Isles) This blessing talks about wishing someone well as they go on their journey....that their journey will be an easy one. This may be an actual journey, but it could also mean the journey of people's lives. As you listen, you might not understand every word, because the language is like a poem, so I'm going to use some pictures to help us. *[Try to leave a pause between each slide, and resist the urge to explain the words: let them sink in and let the words and pictures 'speak' to children at whatever level they will absorb them, even if it's only to enjoy how they sound. Read it more than once if you think it will help.]*

You might just want to put a hand on the shoulder of the person next to you as we bless each other....

- **Slide 20: May the road rise up to meet you.**
- **Slide 21: May the wind be always at your back.**
- **Slide 22: May the sun shine warm upon your face,**
- **Slide 23: ...the rains fall soft upon your fields...**
- **Slide 24: ...and until we meet again,**
- **Slide 25: ....may God hold you in the palm of His hand.**
- **Slide 26: Amen**

#### **Sending:**

#### **Slide 27: Use this term's leaving words**

**Leader:** We have journeyed together today.

As we leave this place and time and go into the day ahead...

**ALL:** ...**May God go with us.**



Sign for 'God': [British Sign Language BSL Video Dictionary - God](#)

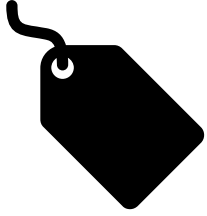


Sign for 'go with us' – we have invented this! After you've signed 'God', bring your finger down alongside your other finger and make them 'journey together' in front of you.

### To sing / listen to:

[Our farewell song](#) (NBD)

[Leavers' Song](#) (BBC)



### Ideas for classroom reflection: Bible verse label & some blank luggage labels, one per child if you can

Pick up a finger labyrinth. As you trace the route with your finger, think about the journey that you have been on during this school year.

Look at the words on the big label. Talk about what difference they might have made to the people God spoke to.

Choose a label for yourself. You might want to write your thoughts or a prayer on the back.



## Your Journey

*This is a reflective story to help leavers to reflect on their own school journey, and to look forward to the next step on the road. Don't be afraid to leave some gaps for reflective thinking & ask children to use these gaps to think.....*

**You will need the rucksack, packed with the objects. Pack them in this order so that they come out in story order!:**

The luggage label with Jesus' words on	A pair of glasses	The compass
The torch	The map	The gift
The bottle of water	The purse of coins	The passport
A long roll of cloth, preferably grey or brown		

**Slide 6:** Your time with us at .....School has been a bit like a journey....and like a journey, the road *[unroll long cloth to form a 'road']* stretches behind us.... and ahead of us...

**Slide 7:** For .....years, we have belonged together..... we have been a familiar place, your home, our school *[place passport]*... we have shared our lives together...

**Slide 8:** We hope that there have been great times that you'll always remember, moments that will stay with you forever, the treasure *[place the money]* of happy memories that we can look back on....

**Slide 9:** ...We know that there will have been times when things have got in a mess and we've needed to clean up *[place bottle of water]* ... to say sorry...and to forgive each other....

**Slide 10:**...Your new school or new class is another kind of new beginning for you....a chance to reflect on who you are, and the gift *[place gift]* that you will be to your new community....

**Slide 11:** ...On your journey with us, we hope that you have learned many things, that you have gained not just knowledge, but wisdom, and that all these things will equip you for the world that lies ahead *[place map]* as you travel on in your school journey....

**Slide 12:** ....we hope that your time with us will help you to shine your light brightly *[place torch]*.... and know where to find light when the road is dark....

**Slide 13:** ....to help you to find your way when you are lost....*[place compass]*... and help others to do the same....

**Slide 14:** ....but more than anything, we hope you leave us seeing yourself, and others, as God sees you, *[place glasses]* ... full of potential..... precious....and unique....and loved....

**Slide 15:** ....And as we pack up ready to move on, we want to remind you of some words that Jesus spoke to his friends before he left earth and moved on himself *[tie luggage label onto bag]*: **'I will be with you – always and forever.'**

**And you know where we are too!....**





*Jesus spoke these words of comfort and encouragement to his disciples.*

*Use a finger labyrinth as you think...*



**As you trace the route with your finger, think about the journey that you have been on during this school year.**



**Look at the words on the big labels. Talk about what difference they might have made to the people God spoke to.**



**Choose a label for yourself. You might want to write your thoughts or a prayer on the back.**



Print this onto card for your rucksack:

**‘I will be with you  
always and forever –  
until the very  
end of time.’**

*(Matthew 28:20)*



**‘To boldly go.....!’**

**13. Your journey**

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Guildford**   
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

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be with you  
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