

Reflection

There is a way of chanting that is used to keep army cadets working happily as a team. The sergeant calls out the chant with equal stress on each syllable and the cadets repeat what they hear. You could try one like this:

You:	<i>We're a great team, yes we are.</i>
Children repeat:	<i>We're a great team, yes we are.</i>
You:	<i>We're a great team, yes we are.</i>
Children repeat:	<i>We're a great team, yes we are.</i>
You:	<i>Diddly dee and cha cha cha.</i>
Children repeat:	<i>Diddly dee and cha cha cha</i>

Repeat the chant three or more times. Ask the children to think up more verses. Their class can then teach it to the whole assembly.

We are all different and we all have different skills and talents. We can use the things we are good at to work together as a team. Teams are not just about sport. Nearly any job is better tackled together.

The Meaning of Friendship

Focus

To think about the many ways in which friendship can be expressed.

You will need

Post-it notes; three pieces of sugar paper fixed securely to the wall; marker pen.

On the day before the assembly, give a Post-it note to each child in one class. Ask them to write on the note one thing that they have done with a friend that day, and to put their name on it. Be sensitive to the fact that some children are loners and may need help to find something they can contribute (you could perhaps give them a 'helping' task to write about). Collect the notes and take them along to assembly. This class should sit at the front.

Opening

Ask all the children what it means to be a friend. Encourage them to find words such as 'loving', 'sharing', 'playing together', 'talking to each other', 'taking care of each other'. Pick three key words (it could be caring/sharing/playing) and write them on the sugar paper, so that you have created three categories with space under each heading to place the Post-it notes. This is your 'wall of friendship'.

Development

Read out the names of the children who have provided you with the Post-it notes, one by one. Each time you call out a name, that child comes to the front, reads out their activity, and together you decide on which section of the wall to place the Post-it note.

When all of the notes have been placed, you can talk about the many different ways in which we can show our friendship. Ask those children who have not written Post-it notes if they can make any other suggestions.

Reflection

Sing this song together, using the tune 'When the Saints Come Marching In'.

*We are friends
We are friends,
We are friends at school today.
We are very friendly children
Here at school, this sunny/rainy day.*

Footnote:

It would be very helpful if you could involve the whole school in making a 'wall of friendship' display by asking children to draw pictures of friends working and playing together and writing a few sentences about the things friends do together under each picture. This would need to be a whole-school activity supported by your colleagues. This could be done before the assembly to focus everyone's attention (or after it as a follow-up activity).