**Enrichment Assembly**

School:

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| Date: | 4th Sunday of Lent (27 March 2022) |
| Theme of Assembly: | **Mother’s Day** |
| Resources: |  |
| Assembly notes: | **Mother’s Day / Mothering Sunday**  *It is important to be aware of your pupils and those for whom this may be a sensitive or difficult topic.*  This weekend across the UK people will be celebrating Mother’s Day or Mothering Sunday. Do you celebrate it in your family?  Mother’s Day is always held on the 4th Sunday of Lent each year. Lent is the time that leads up to the Christian festival of Easter.   * Do you remember how many people celebrate Lent?   [They give up something, often food, like chocolate, or maybe give up going on social media.]  Mother’s Day is a day to celebrate our mum’s but also all the important women in our lives who help us and love us. That could include your grandmother, aunties or any other women.   * Think about who are the women in your life you want to celebrate this weekend?   There are lots of different stories about how Mother’s Day began to be celebrated in the UK. One of the reasons is that historically children as young as 9 or 10 had to go out and get jobs (so year 5 & 6 age). They would often have to work as a servant or a maid and would live in the house where they worked. They worked every day and very rarely got to go home and visit their family. It was very hard for them. Every year Mothering Sunday was one of the few days off that the servants and maids got so they would use it to go home and visit their families. On the way the children would stop and pick flowers to give to their mothers when they got home.  These days we often still give flowers to show our mum’s how much we love them. Many churches give the children in the congregation a little bunch of spring flowers to give to their mothers and the other women in church, as a thank you for all their care and love throughout the year.  As well as giving flowers mums sometimes are given other presents such as chocolates or something else they like. We might make or give a card with a special message to tell how thankful we are for them. Mums might have breakfast in bed made for them. Families might also go out for dinner or have a special meal all together at home.  Having a special day to celebrate mothers and other special women happens all over the world, but not always at the same time as our Mother’s Day.  In Australia they celebrate Mother’s Day on the 2nd Sunday in May. It is the same date in Canada and the United States.  Australia started celebrating Mother’s Day nearly 100 years ago in 1924. There had been a terrible war so lots of mums would have lost their husbands and sons. A lady called Janet Heyden asked shops and schools to give gifts to these women. People liked the idea so much they started doing it each year.  Today in Australia, Mother’s Day is a time for families to get together and enjoy celebrating the special women in their lives.  In Mexico, Mother’s Day is called ‘Dia de la Madre’, which is Mother’s Day in Spanish. It is on 10th May and is one of the most important days of the year.  It is most restaurants’ busiest day of the year, as families may have meals to celebrate.  Families sometimes hire music bands to play their mum’s favourite songs.  Flower stalls can also get very busy, as lots of Mexican people buy their mums flowers, just like here.  In Thailand, Mother’s Day is on the birthday of Queen Sirikit, 12th August. Therefore on Mother’s Day you may see pictures of Queen Sirikit in lots of places.  It is a national holiday, which means that children don’t have to go to school.  There are often parades and firework displays.  A traditional gift for children to give their mum is a jasmine flower.  Mother’s Day is so important in Ethiopia, it lasts for three days! It is called Antrosht. It is held at the end of the rainy season in autumn, and not only celebrates mums but the earth and the gifts we get from the earth. The whole family may prepare a special meal and sing songs that celebrate special people.  Mother’s Day in Malawi is celebrated on 15th October. It is a national holiday, so people have the day off work and school. The President of Malawi often makes a speech explaining how important mums are and how people should respect and love them.  God has given us mothers and others who care for us so much. Our mothers and the women in our lives who are important to us are so special. They deserve to be celebrated.  How do you celebrate Mother’s Day in your family? |
| Questioning:  COULD YOU MENTION OUR VALUES?  (Courageous optimism, Boundless creativity, Heartfelt compassion) | It takes a lot of Courageous optimism to be a mum and to look after the special people in our lives.  Mother’s Day is all about Heartfelt Compassion. It celebrates our love and thankfulness for the mums and women in our lives and also their love and care for us.  How can you use Boundless Creativity to celebrate your mum or the special women in your life and show them how much you care? |
| Reflection and stillness time: | Think about your mum or the special women in your life.  Think about how you can show them how much you love them and how thankful you are for them |