



Activity title:	Whole School Assembly
Description:	Words - a chance for us to reflect on how we use words for good rather than for bad
Year groups:	Whole school
Dylan Thomas Text:	Under Milk Wood
Equipment required:	None
Suggested procedure:	<p>Ask the children where words are used around us, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- newspapers to relay news- signs can warn us of danger- telling jokes- reciting stories- relaying information / giving instructions <p>Writers can use words to write all sorts of books, plays, TV programmes and even apps.</p> <p>Dylan Thomas, a famous Welsh writer loved words and the sound that they made. He wrote poems, plays and stories using words which paint a picture in our imaginations. Just as a painter chooses his colours carefully, Dylan Thomas chose his words very carefully when he was writing.</p> <p>Explain that we need to choose our words carefully too, because words can change the way people feel. Words can be used for good and can make people feel better. If you've fallen over and hurt yourself, being asked if you're ok can help you feel better.</p> <p>When someone says thank you to us it can make us feel warm inside. When someone gives us a compliment, maybe saying that they like our clothes, it can make us feel happy.</p> <p>Ask the children how they feel if a teacher or a friend says that they like a story they have written or a picture they have painted. It can make you feel good / happy / warm.</p> <p>Explain that coaches can use words to inspire you and to make you perform to the best of your ability on the hockey /rugby / football pitch.</p>



	<p>Explain that words can do harm as well as do good. Words can be used for swearing, for gossiping or for name calling. These words can be said aloud, or written or typed on social media networks. Ask the children how these words can make them feel. Hearing, or reading unkind things being said about you can make you feel sad and lonely. It can make us feel very unhappy.</p> <p>The Bible says: " Kind words bring life, but cruel words crush your spirit."</p> <p>That means we should be kind to each other and help each other feel happy, not make each other feel sad. Choosing our words carefully can help us achieve that.</p>
Prayer:	<p>Dear Lord, Let us remember that words are can be used for good and for bad. Help us to choose our words carefully every day. Let us speak kind words, and encourage and praise the good in each other.</p> <p>Amen.</p>

** These assembly ideas are also suitable to be used in lessons*