**Collective Worship guidance notes: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh**

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| **Theme: The passing of Prince Philip – honouring his commitment, companionship and sense of hope for the future.** |
| **Resources:**   * Pictures of Prince Philip’s life (in the accompanying PowerPoint) Please use as many of these as you feel is appropriate for the occasion. There is a precis of this script on each slide to aid teachers. * **Personalising the presentation:** It may be that your school values link in with the key skills that the DofE programme aims to develop (respect, service, grace, hope), More information is available on the DofE website: <http://www.dofe.org/levels-and-timescales> |
| **Gathering:**  **Slide 1:** Use the welcoming liturgy familiar to your children |
| **Engaging:**   * **Slide 2:** Today we are together to think about an important member of our Royal family – the Queen’s husband, Prince Phillip, the Duke of Edinburgh, who died during the Easter holidays. We are going to use some photographs from his life, to help us as we remember. Prince Phillip, also known as the Duke of Edinburgh, was often by the Queen’s side, and it is hard for us to imagine how the Royal family must be feeling at this time. * **Slide 3:** As you will see and hear, the Duke of Edinburgh lived a long life, working beside the Queen until he was well into his nineties, and he did much good for the benefit of others. When he met the Queen he was in the Navy. * **Slide 4:** The Duke of Edinburgh was royal even before he married the Queen: he was the son of Prince Andrew of Greece, and Princess Alice of Battenberg (in Denmark), and had the title ‘Prince of Greece and Denmark’. * **Slide 5:** He gave up his own royal title to become engaged to the Queen in 1947. He also gave up his job in the Royal Navy to be by her side. They had a long marriage and celebrated their Platinum wedding anniversary (70 years) in 2017. In 2009, he became the longest-serving consort (companion) to a reigning monarch and was at the Queen’s side as she celebrated her Diamond (60th) Jubilee in June 2012 and her 90th birthday in June 2016. * **Slide 6:** Prince Philip accompanied the Queen on thousands of visits to greet people all over the world. The Queen and Prince Philip met many of the most important people in the world as well as thousands of ordinary people and they always spent time to get to know each of them and make them feel special.   **Slide 7:** With the Queen, he had four children, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. You might think it must be wonderful to be a member of the royal family but there must be times when it is very hard – having other people organise every minute of your time and having to spend day after day visiting places and greet people and never having very much time to yourself. The Queen once referred to Prince Philip as her ‘constant strength and guide’.   * **Slide 8:** The Duke was best-known to younger people for setting up the Duke of Edinburgh awards scheme in 1956.This inspirational scheme has shaped millions of young peoples’ lives over the years, encouraging them to challenge themselves physically and change their local community by volunteering. * **Slide 9:** The Duke was an ambassador for the science and technology industries and sporting organisations and a patron or president of 785 different organisations, including Lord’s Cricket Ground and Wimbledon (All England Lawn and Tennis Club). In the 1970s he set up the Royal Academy of Engineering which changed the face of the engineering profession and created opportunities for new types of engineering as technology changed. * **Slide 10:** A lot of people don’t realise that Prince Philip was passionate about protecting the environment - he actually helped to set up the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) and was its president from 1961-1996. * **Slide 11:** It was Prince Philip’s Christian faith that led him to campaign for the environment. He once said: ‘Christianity teaches us that the Creation of the world was an act of God, so it follows that if you belong to the church of God then you ought to look after God’s Creation….God has given humans responsibility for it.’ Prince Philip even wrote a book about this. * **Slide 12:** A few other things you might not know about Prince Philip:   + He loved carriage driving (especially at high speed!) through the countryside, and competed internationally   + With his love of engineering, he modernised Buckingham Palace   + He was Ranger of Windsor Great Park and was instrumental in ensuring the upkeep of vast parklands, from designing gardens to introducing deer into the park.   + He was a keen oil painter, and painted a portrait of his wife eating breakfast in Buckingham Palace   + He was the first member of the Royal family to fly out of Buckingham Palace Gardens in a helicopter * **Slide 13:** From 1952, when the Queen became the Queen, until he officially retired (aged 95!!), the Duke of Edinburgh attended 22,191 solo engagements – and thousands more by the Queen’s side, to places all over the world and up and down Great Britain. **He did this because he had a very strong sense of responsibility and hope that he could make the world a better place.** |
| **Responding:**   * **Slide 14:** Let’s pause for a moment to reflect on that for ourselves. None of us will ever be in the position that Prince Philip was in, but we can all show responsibility and hope like he did. Sometimes we have to do things we would rather not do but we do them because they are the right thing to do. In our own ways, we can all make the world a better place through the choices we make and the things we choose to stand up for. |
| **Sending:** ‘   * **Slide 15:** We need to remember that Prince Phillip was a husband, father, uncle, grandfather and great-grandfather, who will be missed by the family who loved him. Because the Queen is a Christian, she will be drawing strength from God whom she has faithfully served during her long reign and holding tight to the promise that Jesus makes to all of us: ‘I will be with you always – until the very end of time.’ (Matthew 28:20) We can pray for her and her family, as many Christians all over the world will also be doing at this sad time. (say the prayer on the slide)   I wonder what you want to stand up for and support because you feel that it is the right thing to do. |