**5. The Throne**

*There is an accompanying PowerPoint for this assembly*

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| **Age range:** Primary |
| **Theme:** This term, we are thinking about leaders, leading and following, and begin a mini-series on the Coronation, with the story of King David, whose anointing (along with his son Solomon, later in history) forms the basis of the traditions and rituals that we will witness in the Coronation of King Charles III, an historic moment in the life of our nation. Within this theme, there is the obvious reality that *we* haven’t actually chosen our King (which is a whole other minefield it might be best to avoid!), but we do want to think about how he – and we – need help to take on our responsibilities. There is also a chance to reflect on one of the more mysterious & ancient practices that children might see at the Coronation – that of anointing. *[There is also a comprehensive resource about all things Coronation* [*here*](https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/docs/default-source/making-disciples/nurturing-education/collective-worship/coronation-resources-for-schools.pdf?sfvrsn=48530832_0)*, compiled by Jane.]*  |
| **DiamondHow does this link to your school’s Christian vision & values?**This week, the focus is on praying for leaders in your school community, including children – and of course for the new King as he continues his reign, linking in with a verse that St. Paul wrote to the young leader Timothy. |
| **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.
* **The opening game consists of photos of different chairs, leading up to the Coronation Throne, another link with ancient traditions.** Do use a quiz show host voice if you want to! ‘When might you sit in a chair like this?!!’
* You will also need to set up a chair at the front of your hall, and drape it with gold cloth, to make it look like a throne. If you have a role-play crown, then you could also situate this on the seat. This could be replicated in each classroom.
* **Reflective activity:** link to Prayer Spaces in Schools idea here: [Coronation; The Throne – praying for our leaders - Prayer Spaces In Schools](https://prayerspacesinschools.com/resources/coronation-the-throne-praying-for-our-leaders/)
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| Door Open**Gathering:** * **Slide 1:** This term, we are thinking about leading, leaders, and followers – and today, we are ending our mini-series about the Coronation. But let’s start as we always do….
* **Slide 2:** Use these new gathering words for this term, or your usual greeting if you prefer. The greeting comes with BSL signing, you can view the demos using links under the slide.

**Leader:** As we share these stories of leaders…**ALL:** May we follow their example in **thoughts** and **words** and **actions**. |
| Puzzle**Engaging:** * **Slide 3:**We’re going to start our time together today with a game….all about chairs!! I’m going to show you a series of pictures – and all you need to do is decide who might sit in a chair like this….let’s start with this picture! ‘When might you sit in a chair like this?’ *[at school]*
* **Slide 4:** ‘When might you sit in a chair like this?’ *[at the dentist]*
* **Slide 5:** ‘When might you sit in a chair like this?’ *[in the car]*
* **Slide 6:** ‘When might you sit in a chair like this?’ *[at the seaside]*
* **Slide 7:** ‘When might you sit in a chair like this?’ *[to watch a movie/go to a show]*
* **Slide 8:** ‘When might you sit in a chair like this?’ *[to be crowned]* You might have seen this in the Coronation – and it’s another very old artefact, dating back to 1301 (that’s 722 years ago!) Although it probably doesn’t look as grand as you might think a throne should be, it’s where many of England’s Kings and Queens have sat to be crowned. You will remember that, in the Coronation, there were special words for the King to say as he made promises to the people and to God.
* We’re going to use a throne as a symbol for us now, to help us as we begin on our journey through the rest of the term, looking at and learning from the lives of leaders across the world and across history. *Our* throne isn’t very grand, but for this week, we’re going to use it to help us to think about and pray for the people who are leaders for us.
* **Slide 9:** At her Coronation in 1953, our late Queen was given a Bible, with the words **‘Here is wisdom’**. The Bible was a book which she treasured for the whole of her long life, a place where she said she found the wisdom to help her to lead well. In the Bible, one of the very first Christian leaders wrote these wise words of advice to one of the very first churches. He said:

**You should** **pray for kings and for all who have authority. Pray for leaders so that we can have quiet and peaceful lives — lives full of worship and respect for God.*** We have many leaders in our lives – here in school, in our wider community and in our nation, like our King. I’m going to invite you to join me to pray in a moment, but first, we are going to have a special time to recognise the leaders in our school. Like there were words at the Coronation, we’re going to use some words together, to commit to each other as leaders and followers in our school community. One of the words I will use is ‘affirm’: this just means that we recognise them as leaders and want to tell them they are good at it. *[teach/explain the words first, then insert the appropriate names / roles where you see …. ; everyone to join in the words* ***in bold.*** *Invite as many leaders as you have time for to be seated on the throne, while you use the words for each person, or who they represent. You could include your headteacher, SLT, class teachers, and especially pupil leaders. Depending on the age of the pupils, you may need to talk about how we could help to be good followers, encouraging and supporting your leaders.]*

**Slide 10:** * **Leader:** We are grateful for….. **We are glad that you lead us.**
* **Leader:** We affirm you in your role….. **May you be given wisdom as a leader.**
* **Leader:** And for those of us who follow….. **We will support and encourage you.**
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| Thought bubble**Slide 11: Responding (words for worship):** **….in the stillness of this moment, let’s be quiet and think…..**….we’ve been thinking about leaders in our school community today, and about our responsibilities to support and encourage them….…we’ve committed ourselves and them to the roles they’ve been given….…so now let’s wonder together….**....I wonder how we can best support and encourage the leaders in our school community?....****…I wonder where in school you might be a leader, or a follower?.....****….I wonder how we all might help others this week, wherever we are?....**…we’ve also heard some words from the Bible, about praying for our leaders, so that’s what we are going to do now….….you might like to think about someone who is a leader for you as I use these words…. and you’d like to pray too, then join in with the Amen at the end.**Slide 12: Prayer**O God, who gives wisdom to all who ask, We are grateful for all those who lead us…. in our families….our schools….our community….and our wider world, and especially for our new King.Give our leaders wisdom to help them to lead, and us wisdom to help us to follow.**Slide 13: Amen** |
| **Sending: Slide 14****Leader:** As we leave this place and time and go into the day ahead…**All:** ….**may we be good leaders and good followers.** |
| **To listen to / sing:** Out of the Ark: [To the sound of trumpets](https://www.outoftheark.co.uk/landing/coronation-song/)[Sing for the King](https://www.theschoolmusicalscompany.com/products/songs-for-the-coronation)Nick & Becky Drake: [Our King](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JcIAZd8p5fQ) |
| Crown with solid fill**\*\*Reflective activity:** Put a role-play crown in your reflective area this week – and create a throne if you have the space.**Hold the crown and think about and/or pray for the people who lead you. You might want to write these thoughts down and leave them on the ‘throne’.** |

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***‘….pray for kings and for all who have authority. Pray for leaders so that we can have quiet and peaceful lives….’***

**Think about the leaders that are in your life. They could be adults or might be friends or other people in your class.**

**Talk about how you could encourage and support them.**

**Hold the crown and spend a few moments praying for all those who lead.**