

## Assembly 18th May – The Beatles

Good morning! I hope this email finds you all happy and healthy.

Please remember my assembly and discussion points within this assembly are designed for children from age 5 -11 so not all will be ideal for your children.

We start assembly with the greeting good morning, we say it and sign it. In addition to signing good morning we also try to sign the initials of the name of the person leading the assembly.

This week my theme is **'The Beatles'**. I always begin my assembly with some music. This week I have selected the following:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VJDJs9dumZI>

Please watch with caution as it is on YouTube and may contain adverts at the beginning.

Many may recognise this song as I have played it in assembly before. I love this video. It is similar to the Dua Lipa – Physical track that we watched three weeks ago in that it combines so many different elements to create an emotional moving video to match the song.

Questions to ask linked to the music:

- What type of dance is performed in the video? Have you seen or performed dance like this before?
  - Why do you think the producer chose the colour palette for the video?
  - Look carefully at the use of animation, light, projection and the drapes of fabric, why do you think the artistic director/ producer chose to do this?
-

## The Beatles

The Beatles were an English rock band formed in Liverpool in 1960. The group were integral to the development of 1960s popular culture and music. It could be argued they revolutionised popular music.

When the Beatles first formed with John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr they really appealed to young British fans of popular music, but quickly they breached the normal barriers of taste, class, and age, transforming their recordings and live performances into matters of widespread public popularity.

Even now five decades later they are hugely popular. I have always enjoyed Beatles music and knew of importance and their popularity. In my preparation for this assembly I researched some of the statistics and I was surprised by the data:

- 1.6 billion The number of Beatles records (singles) sold in the USA alone.
- 600 million. The number of Beatles albums sold worldwide.
- 'Yesterday' has been covered (song and recorded by another artist) over 3000 times. Making it the most-covered song of all time.

When planning this assembly I asked lots of different members of staff what their favourite Beatles track was and I was really pleased that I got one of two responses – 'Oooo that's a difficult question, I like so many' or and immediate answer. I was also really pleased they nearly all picked different songs. Here are a few:

Miss Glynn – Here Come's the Sun

Mrs Neale – Hard Days Night

Miss Frith – Come Together

Mrs Anderson – Get Back

Mrs Griffiths – Twist and Shout

Mrs Phillips - Something

Miss Sedgwick – Yellow Submarine

Mr Joyce – Love, Love me do.

Mr Berry – Yesterday

Mrs Pinchback – Here Come's the Sun

And now mine... well the answer is.. I simply cannot pick a favourite (sorry!) that would be like asking me to pick a favourite child and I can't! I like each song for different reasons. Some because of what or who the music reminds me of, some because of the message, some because of the lyrics, some because the music. I have managed to narrow it down to five -

We Can Work it Out, Eleanor Rigby, While Guitar Gently Weeps, Lady Madonna, Back in the USSR.

If you would like to carrying on thinking about today's theme you could try:

- Listen to some Beatles music to try and find a favourite song or listen to other music from the 1960's.
- Ask family and friends what their favourite Beatles song is and why.
- Ask family and friends what other music they enjoy listening to and why.

Thank you for taking the time to read my assembly. I hope the Beatles music brightens your day.

Take care and stay safe,

Mrs Young