Model for International Day of Peace School event

Provided by the World Peace Prayer Society, Scotland

July 2012

Background

The model described below is for a 2hr event which is presently being organised for Oldham, England. This event will take place on the International Day of Peace 2012.

Steering Group

It is important to involve as many organisations within the City from the initial planning stage to give 'ownership' throughout. For this event we invited people from: the Council, Education Authority, Inter-Faith, Schools and Colleges. Of course, it is important to include those most appropriate from your City and for your own event. However, it is also important not to have a large steering group as decision making becomes far too complicated. A good, workable size would be 6 – 9 people.

Participants

Our event this year involves 24 schools and colleges. We have been working with a 'core' group of 8 schools for over three years. The 'vision' of this group has been to hold an event in Oldham on IDP 2012 to involve as many schools and colleges who wanted to participate. This event is the culmination of that initial 'vision'

2010 and 2011 on IDP we held smaller events with just the 8 schools participating and this has given us a good strong 'core' group of schools who are acting as 'lead' schools for our event this year.

Core schools

The 8 'core' schools are now called 'Oldham International Peace Schools'. All of them have Peace Poles, have held their own Flag Ceremonies together and in their individual schools. 7 out of the 8 schools are running the 'May Peace Prevail on Earth' primary school programme as part of their everyday teaching practice.

School 'triads'

To make this event manageable, the schools are working in 8 groups of 3 schools. The 8 'lead' schools being the 'Oldham International Peace Schools'. This also makes is easy for coordination and communication as we are communicating with 8 schools and not 24!

Event Programme

The 2hr event is called 'May Peace be in Oldham' 'May Peace Prevail on Earth' and is based on celebrating Oldham and the Earth. Oldham is a very diverse city with many different cultures, so we are celebrating diversity and Oneness.

Each of 7 of the groups is given a time slot of 10 mins with the eighth group having 20 mins for May Peace Prevail on Earth'.

Within this time slot, the group will come onto stage, give a short introduction and perform a dance/song/poem/drama etc…. to their interpretation of their given theme

Here is the programme for the 2hr event:

1.30 schools arrive

1.45 guests and VIP's arrive

2.00 Welcome - Education authority

'May Peace be in my Heart'	first triad of schools
	Dance
'May Peace be in my Family'	second triad
	Choral Poem
'May Peace be with my Friends'	third triad
	Dance presentation
'May Peace be in my School'	fourth triad
	Playground games
'May Peace be in Oldham'	fifth triad
	photos/videos' 'what Oldham means to me'
'May Peace be in my country'	sixth triad
	Rap and dance
'May Peace be in all Living Beings'	seventh triad
	Dance
'May Peace Prevail on Earth'	eight triad
	'World Peace Flag Ceremony'
Oldham Peace song	'May Peace begin in my Heart'
	All to sing

Presentation of Peace Pole to the Mayor of Oldham

4.00	Schools leave
4.00 – 4.45	Guest reception

This is truly an event that Oldham has embraced and we have been given help from all organisations that we have approached.

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