

# DEMOCRACY

## 1. As pupils enter

As the children gather, display the photos of school council / elected representatives.

## 2. Introduction

Ask children how these people were chosen. Discuss the way elections happen in your school and the different systems you have in place for children to share their views. The theme of this assembly is democracy. Gather some ideas from the children about what this means.

**Ask: I wonder if you can think of a time where you have had a chance to share your opinion? Did everyone agree? How did that make you feel?**

Explain that everyone will now watch a story - see what happens when people share their views.

## 3. Play the video

The duration is 4' 04" and the final words are: 'See you again soon, bye!'

## 4. After the video - Time to talk

Lead a discussion about the story by asking some or all of the following:

- What did you think when you heard the wheel speak?
- What did you think about the wheel's opinion?
- Did you think everyone would agree with the wheel? Why?
- Do you think the bolt was brave? Why?
- How did you feel when the bolt shared her opinion?
- Why do you think all the other parts of the cart started to speak up?
- The bolt suggests the parts of the cart all have a vote. What do you think of this idea? Why?
- The wheel ignored the other parts of the cart and carried on moving. What words would you use to describe the wheel?

You could pause the video after Amy says 'So the bolt decided to teach the wheel a lesson' and ask the children what they think the bolt might do next. What happens when one part of the cart is not working or is in the wrong place?

## 5. Opportunity to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song.



## 6. Opportunity to reflect

*Close your eyes for a moment. Think about a time when your view differed to the views of those around you. Think about the story of 'The Farmer's Cart' when the bolt spoke up against the wheel. Now picture yourself feeling courageous and sharing your opinion, even though others may not hold the same view. I wonder how you feel now? Next time you have a chance to share your view, have the courage to give it a go...because democracy means that everyone should have the chance to have their voice heard.*

## 7. Opportunity for prayer

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for the story of 'The Farmer's Cart', teaching us the value of democracy. Thank you that, even though we are small, our voice still matters.*

*Help us to remember that the views of those around us are important, especially if their views are different to our own.*

*If we know that something is wrong, give us the courage to speak up to make a positive change.*

*Amen.*