

SACRE TOTEM POLE PROJECT

AIMS

To promote inter-faith discussion; find out about each other's faiths on a personal and practical level. What do the students feel is important about their faith?

What images? Why? Any image at all? Muslims may find the idea of any image of a living thing uncomfortable – though the Muslims at TWBS do life drawing without question. However, when I ran a similar event at the Girls' School the Muslims did not participate although the model was draped and female. The Muslim tradition of exquisite calligraphy and abstract mosaic patterns and their traditional, magnificent architecture could provide a basis for their contribution.

An opportunity to work together to produce a final, unified piece.

To promote an exhibition of the final works in an accessible and public venue to be opened by a multi-faith group of local 'grandees' and perhaps someone nationally known as a promoter of interfaith cooperation.

COMPETITION

Should this event be competitive? If a good prize were to be offered it would spur people on. Would the grant allow this? It would have to be something good; something the students will enjoy, not necessarily something for the school, useful but remote.

AGE GROUP

I suggest year 9/10 as they have acquired some skills and experience and are not yet in the maelstrom of choosing subjects and public exams.

WHEN?

Spring Term as the Autumn is always full of Christmas, Divali etc and the Summer has sports etc. Post Christmas is often a 'down' time.

PRACTICAL NEEDS

A leaflet stating aims, details – time scale, age group/s, prize, exhibition etc. To include photos of some totem poles; suggestions of methods of making a pole; where you can get materials – e.g. cardboard cylinders from carpet suppliers and curtain makers; how to stand it up – sandbags.

Can this be colour printed in house at the Council Offices? Cost? I think 2xA4 sheets stapled as a booklet would be adequate. Cost of postage?

Booking a venue for the exhibition/celebration/ Cost?

I could probably get leave-of-absence from TWBS to go to schools to help if needed.