

SCHOOLS! STAND UP SING OUT



AGAINST POVERTY & INEQUALITY

ANYWHERE, ANYTIME,
ON ANY DAY THAT
SUITS AROUND

17th
OCTOBER
ANY YEAR

a simple opportunity
to join together in the annual
United Nations Day for the
Eradication of Poverty...

...for a few minutes
in assembly or class
simply stand up with

OUR PROMISES ON POVERTY
&
THE COUNT ON US SONG

This mid-October happening is also
in appreciation of the year-round work
and the Weeks of Action
for the Sustainable Development Goals
by the many thousands in the 11,000 civil society
organisations forming GCAP
www.acap.com



STAND UP/SING OUT is an encore of unusual school and other assemblies and choruses - scattered across the country on different days, but united in marking the annual UN Day for ending poverty.

Around 17th October in 2008-11, tens of thousands of UK pupils, teachers, families, groups and individuals found a little time to unite in simple national StandUps Against Poverty. They were a happy show of solidarity with the ethos of the actions in support of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty (and helped set a Guinness World Record of way over 100 million participants).

In assemblies, classes or extra activities, schools and others shared the simple, specially-written Promises to the Poor and Count On Us Song. The smallest school had fewer than 50 pupils: the largest got nearly 2000 joining in. And not just in the UK. Girls Guides in Australia and the Church Army in New Zealand took part – as did the British Antarctic Survey. The idea won widespread praise, notably from head teachers, directors of schools, RE co-ordinators, bishops encouraging whole dioceses – and the then Prime Minister and local MPs.

Stand Up/Sing Out is now much the same; just a little updated. “No Poverty” is the first of the UN’s now 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and Our Promises on Poverty reference many of the others. The slightly shortened Count On Us Song now has places for actions with arms and hands, etc!



HOW TO JOIN IN THIS YEAR? As before, it’s all free, open and easy. The website www.just1.org.uk/standsingout has full information: NB1 Simple slideshow and paper versions for you to download. NB2 The Song has some instrumental arrangements!

Just find some time during or around the week of 17 October (to allow for half terms, awaydays etc). Maybe have someone lead on the Promises and Song. Assemblies are good, and in class or on-screen is fine. Or at home. Badges, banners and posters proved popular. And if you want to arrange other activities, well done and many thanks.

Nothing is sacrosanct. If you feel you’d like to change or add something to suit your needs, you’re very welcome. If you can’t do both Promises and Words, that’s fine. Can’t sing? Humming or silence are OK.

You might also like to reach out

- Invite other schools locally or overseas to join in.
- Write to your MP and local councillors – and media - to show them that you stand for caring and compassion.
- Spread the word to friends on-line – eg schools or education teams.

It would be helpful but not essential to register as taking part – to get an idea of the total count and share a list of participants. Just send basic details to the Just1 Conductor Hugh Gibbons by e-mail: to hughgibbons@just1.org.uk.

Hugh created, funds and runs Just1 (it’s just him and a laptop, actually) as a way of putting wide experience of social justice campaigning and career skills to use. More at <http://www.just1.org.uk/standupsingout>

JUST1

OUR PROMISES ON POVERTY

Let's stand up – to count our blessings and make some Promises to those suffering poverty in any form.

Let's start by listening for the voices of those suffering poverty around the world coming from the south, north, east and west. Now let's tell them why they can count on us to be of help.

#1 We want a world that wants to end Food & Water Poverty. Unlike us, millions of people go hungry all day and every day. And millions of families also suffer without clean water to cook or drink or wash, or for toilets. So shall we promise to stand up for them, and do what we can to make sure there's zero hunger and clean water for everyone? Shall we? YES!

#2 We want a world that wants to end Education Poverty. Unlike us, millions don't get even basic schooling, or don't progress to higher levels. Millions don't have enough teachers, or equipment, or space to study properly. So shall we promise to help make sure that the world has quality education for everyone - everywhere? Shall we? YES!

#3 We want a world that wants to end Health Poverty. Unlike us, millions don't have the medicines, vaccines, hospitals, doctors, nurses, services, social care or education that they and their families need to be and stay well. So shall we promise to help make sure there's good health and wellbeing for everybody, everywhere? Shall we? YES!

#4 We want a world that wants to end Fairness Poverty. Millions of people suffer inequality every day. Yet everyone needs treating with dignity, respect, justice and fairness to have decent working and personal lives. So shall we promise to do what we can to encourage peace, justice, dignity, human rights, and equality – for everyone? Shall we? YES!

#5 We want a world that wants to end Earth Resources Poverty. Millions are already suffering the effects of climate change and damage to the environment and ecology - whether on the land or under the sea. So shall we promise to help ensure that the many riches of our planet are cared for, renewed and shared fairly – and by everyone? Shall we? YES!

#6 And finally, we want a world that wants to end Indifference Poverty. Millions of people suffer because not enough individuals - or governments - care what's happening. So shall we promise to be among the many millions who are concerned, and who do take action, and really want to see an end to poverty in every form, and everywhere? YES!

Many thanks. Now shall we applaud each other and say Well Done for Standing Up Against Poverty & Inequality today? YES!



THE COUNT ON US SONG

For everyone; or led by a soloist or instruments; or whatever suits, and is enjoyable.
NB maybe actions, as in the picture

V1 Poverty we want to end and injustice too.
So we promise this together:
We'll stand up for you.
*You can count on us! We're with you!
Hand in hand and side by side, yes,
We'll stand up for you.*

V2 Hands on hearts and minds switched on
Using our eyes too
With our arms outheld so you'll know
We'll reach out for you.
*You can count on us! We're with you.
North and south and east and west, Yes!
We'll reach out for you.*

V3 Ones and tens and hundreds, thousands -
We're not just a few.
Count on us to raise a fuss as
We speak out for you.
*You can count on us! Yes us too.
Here's a vow we're making now: yes
We'll speak out for you.*

V4 Poverty we want to end and injustice too.
So we promise this together:
We'll step up for you.
*You can count on us! We're with you!
Hand in hand and side by side, yes
We'll step up for you.*

WE WILL!



THE COUNT ON US SONG

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www.just1.org.uk/standupsingout

"The Song is easy to learn and appealing - a mix of traditional and modern in the tune, with words that are suitable for anyone", said the leader of a Glee Club standing up and singing out.

Track 1

Lento

p

C.F.S.C.

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What a diversity of people said about previous StandUps

www.just1.org.uk/standupsingout



It was indeed heart-warming to hear of your successes last year, and I wish you all the best with your present campaign. I greatly value the input of faith groups, charitable organisations, NGOs and private individuals in the global struggle against poverty. The role of the individual in driving positive change is a crucial one: each and every person taking part in the 50 Days of Global Action Against Poverty reaffirms my belief that individuals can come together to make a difference...I am personally committed to the eradication of global poverty and supporting development in the poorest countries. It is therefore very encouraging to hear of proactive and positive community action in support of these same goals. I wish you every success in your efforts for this October's StandUp.

Gordon Brown, UK Prime Minister

One girl in Year5 was so moved she created her own video. She knocked on the door of our MP until she found him in. He was very impressed with her commitment and video. He invited the class to visit Parliament so they could take their message directly to the Minister. *Primary Head Teacher*

We did the StandUp at church last week using the Promises as bidding prayers and collecting signatures. We did the same thing in a family assembly today. We have collected loads of signatures which we are sending to Gordon Brown and our MP. It felt great to be doing something. *Head Teacher at Primary where 600 stood up against poverty.*

We're all set for next Friday! At our whole school assembly there will be approximately 25 adults and 434 children standing up against poverty. Our Key Stage 2 children and the adults will be reading the pledges, and our Key Stage 1 children will have been fully briefed about what they will be standing up for! (Our Reception children and maybe our Year 1s will be holding cards they will have made, with a photo from the Internet of someone who is living in poverty, and will then take the card home so that they can pray specifically for that person). *Primary RE Co-ordinator*

The whole school (250) took part in a very special House Meeting with banners and posters. The children have been moved by the campaign and I am sure they will continue to do their bit to fight world poverty. I am so proud of each and every one of them. *Head Teacher*

I am pleased to encourage schools to take part in the Stand Up campaign as it offers a simple but powerful way of showing solidarity with a cause with which young people have a great affinity. And it offers another opportunity to engage our students in the ongoing discussion about important issues of justice for the poor and marginalized. *Director of Schools*

It is extremely important that we raise public awareness about the challenges faced by developing countries, so I welcome your efforts in this area. I wish you every success with your plans to get others involved in StandUp Against Poverty. *Douglas Alexander, Secretary of State for International Development (a department in its own right in 2009)*

Just to confirm that 198 boys and 12 staff members took part in the Stand Up Against Poverty appeal today. We will be taking a collection next week as well. It was definitely worth doing and has helped to raise awareness among us all of the plight of poor people around the world. Many thanks for co-ordinating such a mammoth project. I hope it has gone as well elsewhere as it did here! *Head Teacher*

Yes! We would like to stand up against poverty and inequality. We will do so at a special assembly, consisting of 195 children, 15 staff and about 25 parents. Thank you. *Primary Head Teacher*

I estimate that we will have 900 standing. *Principal of College*

We are a small primary school 67 on roll. Friday 17th is our Harvest Festival. We will include the Stand Up during our Harvest. Estimate 100 with parents/parishioners etc. *Head Teacher*

450 will be standing up in class. *Head of Social and Ethical Studies*

It sounds a wonderful idea. I wish I'd known about it last year! *Primary RE co-ordinator where 305 joined in.*

We will stand up as school community and make promises during tannoy prayers. *Chaplain at a high school with 1800 pupils & staff*

