

# Year 5

## Option for the poor and vulnerable

**BIG QUESTION: How we see each other as brothers and sisters ?**

Sally had lived in the same street all her life. Her Mum had lived there and her dad had grown up and lived two streets away. They were a very happy family and although not rich, Sally and her two younger brothers had all they needed to be happy. That was before her dad lost his job as the factory was closed down. Sally discovered that her whole class were in the same boat. "Henderson's yard's gone," said Robbie, "and my Mam says the canning factory will be next." Everyone was very quiet. We were just about to finish for the summer holidays and the happy feelings of long days playing out and the trips to the seaside gave way to a real sense of depression, doom and gloom. Nearly everyone had had an evening of, "How are we going to pay the rent?" "Where's the money coming from to put food on the table?" "He needs shoes, not to mention new uniforms for school next term." Sally had cried all night, not just because for the first time in her life she had looked out of the window and seen her dad standing alone in the back garden crying quietly to himself. For days everyone seemed so helpless. There were meetings for grown-ups in the parish hall and people from the council came and went. Our MP came and said there was nothing he could do. We would have to move out and find work elsewhere. Everyone booed so loudly that they had to get him out fast. Sally and her best friend Rose walked arm in arm across the road and out behind the street to the allotments that so many families had spent hours tending. Suddenly an idea struck her like a thunderbolt. There were about thirty allotments and approximately two acres of scrub land owned by the council that no one used. "Rosie", said Sally, "What if..."

**Task: What do you think Sally's idea is? Can you finish this story?**

### Key Vocabulary

**Poverty**

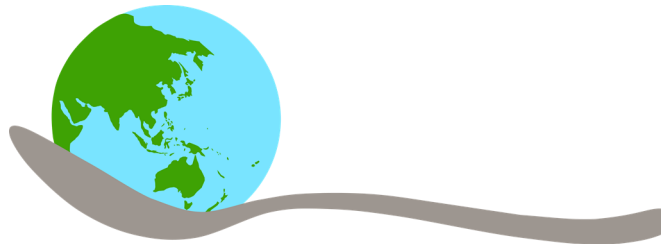
**Prosperity**

**Fairness**

**Equality**

**Caritas**

**What transpired was that the children convinced their individual families to turn their plots into one big plot. As the idea spread those who could worked the land for the good of the whole community.**



They lobbied the Council to allow them to cultivate the scrub land. Within a year the village had a farm co operative where people paid for their fruit and vegetables either from their benefits money or if they did not have enough, time spent in service to the community. By the second year the profits were used to buy chickens.

**TASK: Film a news report of the story**

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**BIG QUESTION:** How can we raise awareness locally and nationally?



Think about how we can set up a 'Family Caritas Shop' in our school. Think of all the things that your families might need that are too expensive for them to buy. Write a letter to all the families in your school and one to be included in the parish Newsletter explaining that we are all one family and families pull together when times are hard. Suggest a list of items that they might like to donate.

**School uniforms that are in good condition**      **Clothes that are in good condition**      **Toys that are nearly new**      **Toiletries**      **Books**  
**Cakes**      **Dry food**      **Food that has been grown in people's gardens and they have too much**

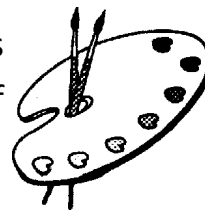
**Price items at a low cost in money, or like Sally's idea, price the item in time shared and given to others.**

### Music Task

Research both religious music and pop music to find as many examples as you can of music which speaks of equality and fairness



**Art Task:** There are many paintings which also show the theme of Equality. See how many you can find.



**Reading Task:** Can you find any more stories about equality and sharing?

**Creative Writing Task:** Compose your own poem, song or rap on the theme of equality.

