

## 2024 Top ten assembly pictures

The aim of a No Outsiders assembly is to make No Outsiders real and bring it to life. The picture books are fantastic, but you can't drive an ethos just using those one lesson every half term; the weekly assemblies drive the inclusive narrative giving real life examples of inclusion and reassuring pupils of their place in the world.

These are the top No Outsiders assemblies for 2024 (with a KS1 bonus section at the end )



1.

<https://no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/07/more-than-game.html>

I remember wanting an assembly for the day after the Euros that I could use regardless of the result because I didn't want to be writing it at 10:00 on Sunday night after watching the game. This speech by Gareth Southgate, given to the team before the game, was perfect for me. A Headteacher contacted me the day after to say the assembly really lifted the mood in her school on the Monday morning when children came in quite deflated. For me, this assembly is a fantastic demonstration of where we can go with a No Outsiders narrative.

This assembly was by far the most popular of the year with double the downloads of any other and today the third biggest number of downloads ever.

"I am the England men's football team manager. I have a responsibility to the wider community to use my voice and so do the players. It's their duty to interact with the public on matters such as equality, inclusivity, racial injustice, while using the power of their voices to help put debates on the table; to raise awareness and educate."



2.

<https://no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/07/multicultural-society.html>

The top two assemblies of the year are from consecutive weeks and both on the Euros. This assembly shows cricket fans from opposing teams of different nationality uniting to support England. "India vs Pakistan, guys, no one is actually watching the cricket, everyone has come in to watch the football. And everyone here, regardless of whether they are supporting India or Pakistan, is supporting England." It's a fantastic opener to a discussion exploring multicultural Britain and what that means.



3.

<https://no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/08/fish-and-chips.html>

When the appalling violence happened at the start of the summer holidays, I wanted to be in school. I wanted to be in front of the children reassuring them of our inclusive ethos and reminding them that whatever goes on outside our

school gates, here everyone is safe; everyone belongs in our school because there are no outsiders. I used this assembly from 2020 and updated it. It's a great message about refugees and contributions to society. For me, this was exactly what we needed for conversations in schools to challenge racism and prejudice that may exist in the community.

"You've got refugees to thank for me. I'm a bit Spanish, a bit Portuguese, 15<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish refugees bought me over." The chips then explain they came over with French refugees. And the first Fish and Chip shop was opened by a refugee called Joseph Malin in the 1860s."



4.

<https://no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/02/photos.html>

Lots of schools contacted me at the time to say how much they enjoyed this assembly and the discussions it stimulated. I've been using the images since in a PD lesson about gender stereotypes as you can get great debates going – everyone has an opinion. "These photos are a reminder to question our assumptions and not place unnecessary limits on anyone- an empowering message to girls who don't fit neatly in to a socially constructed box. I hope that girls see that there is no box. Whatever their dreams are, they can achieve."



5.

<https://no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/09/paralympics-refugee-team.html>

Zakia says, "I am so proud of this flag because today I am a refugee. Today I am a refugee. I worked hard these three years and there were problems that I had but that is in the past."

Guillaume says, "I am very happy to have this medal. It shows that the Paralympic movement is galvanising for refugees and it is an honour for me: I wrote my name in history. The message I have for all refugees in the world is to believe in yourself."

Guillaume says that competing in Paris sends a message to other refugees and people with disabilities that anything is possible. "I want to show the world that being blind doesn't mean your life is over, you can still do great things."

In the photo, Zakia is holding the flag under which the refugee team compete at the Paralympics. When Zakia competed, many of the French public were supporting her, cheering her on with every bout of the game.

To be able to hear voices from the Paralympic refugee team makes a wonderful no outsiders assembly. So many questions to discuss and debate and the image of French fans supporting Zakia in the crowd makes a wonderful conclusion.

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The following five assemblies are my own favourites for 2024; these assemblies together with the 5 most downloaded above, summarise exactly what No Outsiders is about.



6. <https://no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/11/paddington.html>

A perfect image for a no outsiders assembly about refugees and inclusion. Some great quotes too; director of Visit London, Simon McCaugherty, says,

“As Paddington himself says, ‘In London everyone is different and that means anyone can fit in’.”



7.

<https://no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/04/football-shirt.html>

Footballers wearing shirts to make the game accessible to deaf fans, and then Dan Burn signing “Love the fans” after a goal! Fantastic No Outsiders assembly!



8.

<https://no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/11/passive-protest.html>

Disability campaigners in Boston USA put these stickers on disabled badges that they believed were too “passive”. Lots of potential discussion here about

what makes something passive, are they right, are they vandals defacing public property? What to we say about disability at our school?



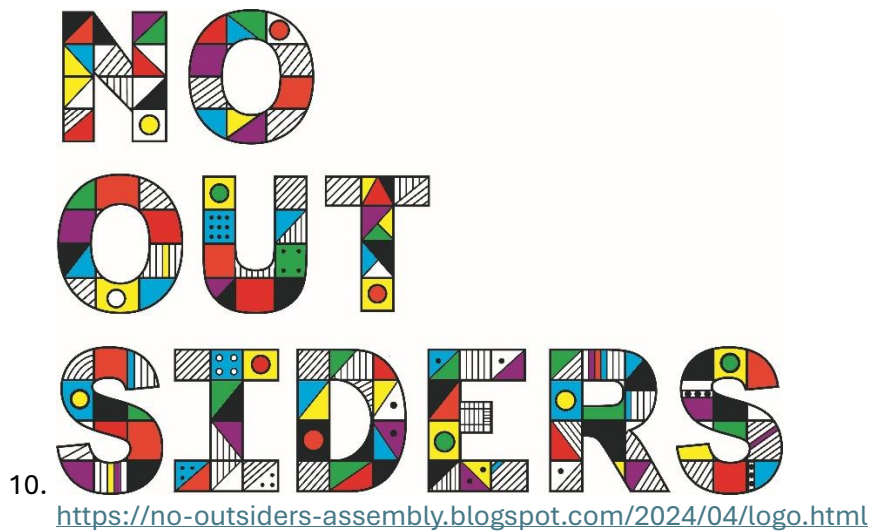
9.

<https://no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/06/veteran.html>

I was really moved by this assembly about Colonel Edward Thomas Ryan who died aged 85 this year and only came out to his family through an obituary read out at his funeral.

"I must tell you one more thing. I was gay all my life; through grade school, through high school, college, life. I was in a loving caring relationship with Paul Cavagnaro or North Greenbush. He was the love of my life. We had 25 great years together. Paul died in 1994, I'll be buried next to Paul. I'm sorry not to have the courage to come out as gay. I was afraid of being ostracised by family, friends and co-workers. Seeing how people like me were treated, I just could not do it. Now that my secret is known, I'll forever rest in peace."

What an amazing letter to share with upper KS2/ KS3 children: why did Edward never tell his family about his life partner? How do you think they felt hearing this? What significant events would his family have missed out on? What can we do at our school today to make sure this never happens again, is this anything to do with us? Fantastic discussions to be had with children about attitudes towards equality and inclusion.



Thanks to the brilliant David Wearing, Head Teacher at The Oaks school in Cheshire, we have this beautiful No Outsiders logo. David wrote a short blog about the meaning of the shapes and colours in the image which gives us a great assembly discussion:

Mr Wearing says, “Each and every one of us is unique and special. We all live different and diverse lives. We all have different and diverse backgrounds. But within that difference and diversity, or humanity and similarities shine through. Each letter represents a person. The colours, lines and symbols represent a certain characteristic of that person. The yellow triangle might represent that you are Jewish, the green circle might represent that you are right-handed, the white triangle with one dot might represent that you live at home with your mum, or the blue triangle might represent that you live at home with two dads or with auntie or nana.

Even though each letter is different, there are lots of similarities. Things that unite us rather than divide. Each and every one of us is special because of our differences.”

### **Bonus assemblies: KS1**



<https://ks1no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/02/friends.html>

The most downloaded KS1 assembly was this from February. It's actually an old assembly from 2018 recycled and updated. Paul raises money to buy his best friend a new wheelchair because he was getting too big for his old one. What makes this story special and great for No Outsiders is their relationship:

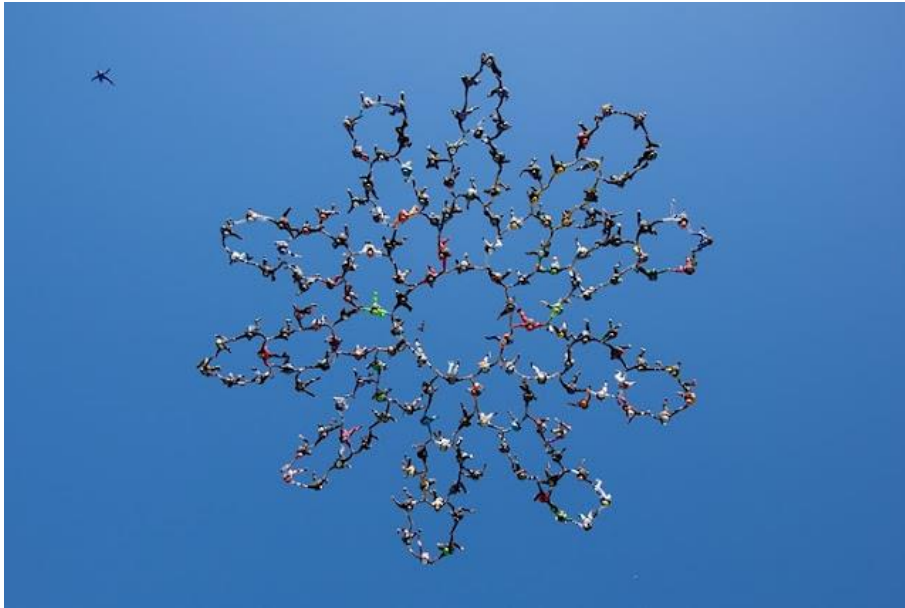
Kamden's mum said, "What really contributes to their friendship is that Paul does not see Kamden as someone who has a disability. He sees him as Kamden. Because of that, Kamden truly is himself around him." Paul never acted as though his friend was different.



<https://ks1no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/01/alligator.html>

This alligator assembly was one of the biggest KS1 downloads this year. It's a simple story about a different-looking alligator (which is described as 'beautiful') being born in a zoo, which gives us a great opportunity to discuss families with young children. Do all babies have to look like their mum or their dad? Do all families have to look the same? What do we say about looking different at our school? Why is this about No Outsiders?





<https://ks1no-outsiders-assembly.blogspot.com/2024/09/start-of-school-year.html>

Every few years I recycle this assembly, originally from 2016, because it's a perfect No Outsiders message, particularly at the start of a new school year, and one that children will enjoy discussing. It shows a world record attempt at skydiving in a flower formation, but it is only successful because everyone worked together. It's an international team so you've got people in that formation with different skin, language, gender, religion and they work together to succeed. You've also got someone at the top left being left out – why are they there? What do you think people are shouting to them? Why is this photo about no outsiders, why is it about our school?