Assembly (1ˢᵗ and 2ⁿᵈ Class)
Based on Lesson 20 Stepping Out
The Good Shepherd

Songs: The Lord is my shepherd, Father I place into your hands, When I needed a neighbour

You need: to have taught Stepping Out lesson 20

1	Last week in R.E. we talked about sheep
2	There are lots of stories in the Bible about sheep
3	And shepherds
4	That's because where the Bible stories took place there were fields and mountains and many farmers had sheep. There were wild animals and other predators too and the sheep had to be protected by shepherds.
5	A shepherd had to look after a flock of about 100 sheep.
6	Sometimes when you look at sheep they all look the same. White and woolly.
7	But sheep have different features and a good shepherd can tell them apart by their looks and the way they behave.
8	In the Bible there is a story Jesus told about a shepherd who had a flock of 100 sheep. He knew them really well, he might have had names for some of them and he knew what they wanted to eat and where they wanted to go.
Teacher/pupils	Read Stepping Out p. 162 -163 story
9	Our teacher asked us to draw our own pictures of the story.
10	We talked about why Jesus told the story
11	Jesus said that God is like a shepherd
12	And each one of us is like the shepherd's sheep
13	We are not sheep
14	No, but it's just a story to explain things
15	God knows each one of us – what we look like and how we are on the inside
16	Our thoughts, our likes, what we are good at and what we need help with
17	And even though there are millions of people in the world, thousands in this part of Ireland, and lots of children in this school Jesus says that God cares about each one of us.
18	Just like the shepherd cares for the sheep.

Prayers	Thank you God that you care for each one of us in the same way as the shepherd in the story cared for each one of the sheep. Amen.