**How to share the news with the children:**

* Begin with the class most affected
* Where possible, gather the children around the sacred space  and light a candle
* Say**:**  Children, I have some sad news. Yesterday X was in an accident/ became very ill… and he/she has died. We all loved X very much. He /she won’t be coming back to school. We will miss him/her. We might feel sad or upset. That is ok. Whatever you feel is ok. You can talk to your teacher about how you feel anytime.
* We can pray that X is now together with Jesus in heaven. We show our love for X by praying for her/him and by remembering and talking about her/him. Some children may want to share a memory, allow them to do this and then close with prayer.
* *Prayer:* We enter a time of peace by making the sign of the cross. Let us pray for X and his/her family in the words that Jesus gave us, ‘Our Father…’  Now we offer each other the sign of peace. Close with the sign of the cross.