

Newsletter October 2020

Our Christian value this term is: Trust



TRUST

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value TRUST. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK ABOUT TRUST TOGETHER...

Trust is a really important value. It must be earned. If we do not **trust** someone it is very hard to build a good friendship with them. Talk together about:

- people who you know that are **trustworthy**
- practical ways that we can show others that we are **trustworthy**
- why it is important to be able to **trust** others when working together as a team

THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"Trusting someone is like knowing you can jump and they will be there to catch you"

Anon



FASCINATING FACTS

The Royal National Lifeboat Institute (RNLI)

When the crew and passengers of boats get into difficulty at sea, they can **trust** the lifeboat crews from RNLI to try their very best to rescue them. Many of the crew and coastguards are volunteers.

- There are over 230 lifeboat stations all around the coast of Britain & Ireland
- Crews are on call 24 hours a day, every day of the year. They must be ready to drop what they are doing at a moments notice to go out on their lifeboat



READ TOGETHER... The Storm on the Lake

The disciples were just exhausted. All day crowds and crowds of people had been following Jesus, listening as he taught them about God's love and watching as he healed people who were ill. Now the sun was beginning to set over the Sea of Galilee. Seeing how tired his friends were, Jesus said, "Let's get in a boat and go over to the other side of the lake."

They rowed away from the shore while Jesus went to the front of the boat and lay down. The waves lapped gently against the side of the boat, lulling Jesus into a peaceful sleep.

Suddenly the wind began to blow dark clouds across the sky. The waves weren't so gentle anymore. The little boat began to pitch and rock. The men looked anxiously across the lake. But Jesus still lay sleeping in the front of the boat.

The wind blew stronger. Great gusts rocked the boat. Spray from the waves soaked everyone inside. But still Jesus lay sleeping in the front of the boat. By the time they reached the centre of the lake, the wind had turned into an angry gale that whipped the waves so high that they washed right over the boat. Jesus' friends were terrified. They thought they might drown. But still Jesus slept on.

Finally, one of Jesus' friends went and shook him awake. "Master," he cried, "don't you care if we drown?" Jesus looked around. He listened to the howling wind. He felt the cold, stinging spray of the waves. He saw the fear in the faces of his disciples.

Jesus stood, stretched out his arms to the wind and the waves, and commanded: "Peace! Be still!" At once the wind died down and the waves became completely calm. Turning to them, Jesus asked the disciples: "Why are you so afraid? Do you not **trust** me?"

Little story passed on Mark 4:35-41



QUIZ Crack the code

Answer the clues to find the letter corresponding to each number and then fill in the message.

Thrown in a board game	1 2 3
Jam is stored in this	4 5 6
Opposite of dark	7 8 9
Used to carry money	10 11 12

Break the code to discover the message in the story:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24



FAMILY FOCUS

Get Knotting

Knot tying is an important skill for every crew member on board a sailing ship. For the various parts of the sails and rigging different knots are used and the crew have to **trust** that the knots are tied properly and will hold.

We all use knots occasionally to hold something securely in place. See if you can master these knots:

A Clove Hitch knot, to secure a rope to a post.



A Reef knot to join 2 ropes together.



HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Build a Boat

This term's Home School Value has a watery theme. The challenge is to use scrap materials to construct a boat that floats and has a working sail.

Use a hairdryer to check that the sail really does catch the wind and move the boat across the water.



HALL OF FAME

Ernest Shackleton

From the time that he was a small boy Ernest Shackleton longed to go to sea. At sixteen he got his chance and joined the crew of a ship sailing to and from the Far East and America. This was the start of an amazing life of daring and discovery.

In December, 1914, Shackleton set out on perhaps his most famous voyage. It was his third expedition to Antarctica. His ship was called the "Endurance" and his mission to travel 1500 miles across Antarctica. Just 5 weeks later, "Endurance" became frozen in pack ice, unable to move. After being stuck for months the boat began to buckle, crushed by the ice. The crew was forced to abandon ship. They set up camp on an ice floe, but this was too dangerous so Shackleton and his men set out in three lifeboats. After six days, the men reached an isolated, uninhabited spot called Elephant Island.

Shackleton knew that for his men to survive, he must fetch help from a whaling station. It was 800 miles away but it was their only hope! Putting their complete **trust** in him and knowing their leader would return if it was humanly possible, the men watched as Shackleton and four others rowed away. Six long months followed before Shackleton was finally able to rescue his men 126 days later, after a journey of nearly 1600 miles.

Shackleton's courage and the **trust** he inspired in his men live on in legend.

Half Term Dates 2020/2021

21st December - 31st December - Christmas Holidays

1st January - Bank Holiday

4th January - INSET Day

15th February - 19th February Half Term

22nd February - INSET Day

2nd April - Bank Holiday

5th April - Bank Holiday

6th April - 16th April - Half Term

3rd May - Bank Holiday

31st May - Bank Holiday

1st June - 4th June - Half Term

21st July - INSET Day

22nd July - 31st August - Summer Holidays

BIRTHDAYS

October Birthdays - Happy Birthday to Freddie! ☺



COOKERY DAY

This month we had our cookery day held at the Village Hall with The Kitchen Club. The theme was "A Very English Autumn" and the children cooked Chicken & Vegetable Casserole along with a classic Apple Crumble. We are very proud of our budding chefs!



CHILDREN IN NEED

The children looked great in their mismatched PE wear for Children in Need (as did the teachers!). We raised £44.23 ☺ Thank you for your donations.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

This year we will be having a 'Christmas Festive Day' instead of a Christmas Jumper Day on Tuesday 15th December. What does this mean? Instead of spending money on a new Christmas jumper, please come to school wearing something seasonally festive; this can be a hat, a piece of tinsel, a festive decoration, a glittery star badge etc.

We are happy for those children to wear a Christmas jumper if they already have one, but please do not buy one to wear.

CIRENCESTER FOOD BANK

The food bank are asking that any Christmas food donations are with them by 7th December to enable them to process and pack into parcels well ahead of Christmas. Christmas puds, Christmas cake, chocolate treats, Christmas biscuits, mince pies etc. Please ensure these items are in-date and will be in date at Christmas as they can be very short-dated.

They would also particularly appreciate donations of the following:

Long-life juice

Tinned rice pudding and tinned fruit

Long-life sponge pudding and tinned custard

Tea bags (40 or 80s) and jars of instant coffee

Household cleaning items (anti-bacterial spray, washing up liquid, bleach, bathroom cleaner, etc.)

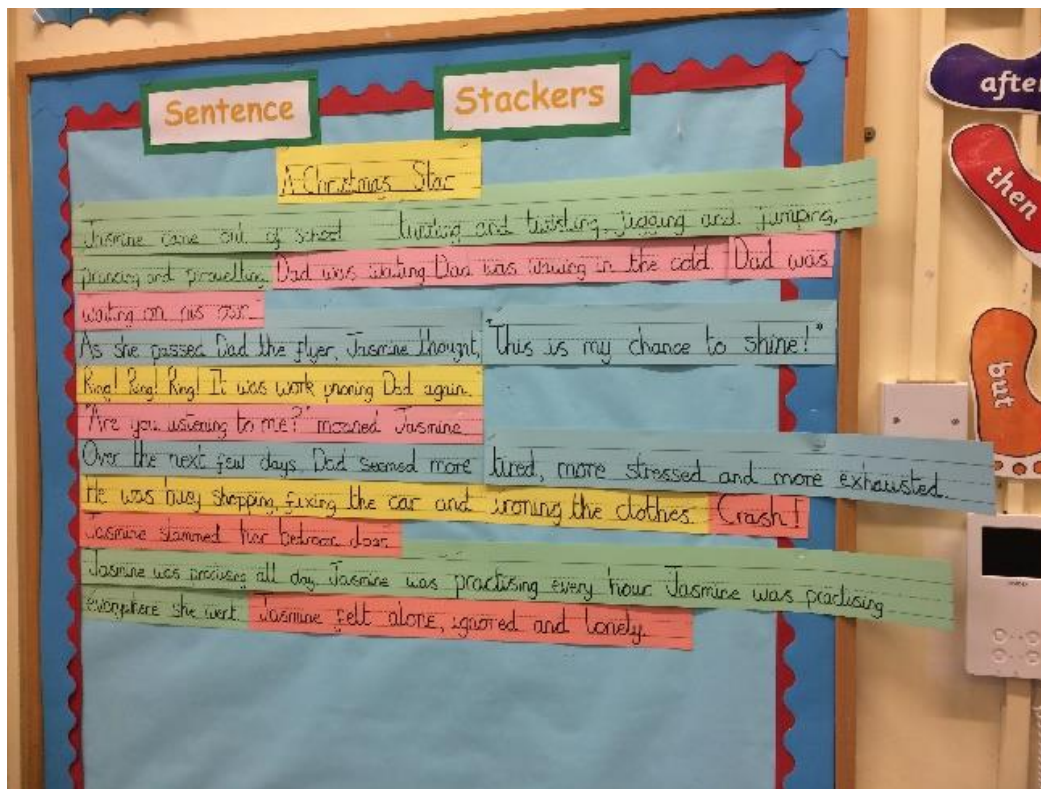
They have plenty of beans and pasta!

Thank you for your support.

ACORNS

Across the school we have been developing a new approach to writing using The Write Stuff approach by Jane Considine. The approach introduces children to rich vocabulary and sentence structures.

Each lesson, new sentences are developed and children's efforts added to a sentence stack. Once completed the children then use the model to help them create their own individual stones. We have received very positive feedback about this approach at our recent moderation session last week.



OAKS

This month we have been very busy in the classroom. In English we have written wonderfully informative newspaper reports about a rare scorpion fish being spotted in Australia, we definitely have some potential reporters in Oaks!

In Maths we have finished our topic on addition and subtraction - the column method doesn't seem anywhere near as scary anymore.

In Science, our investigations about electricity were very successful. The children were all able to make simple and more complex circuits with a bulb and buzzer (The buzzing became a bit of a headache by lesson 3!)

Our topic and art lessons have allowed children to identify the works of Picasso and Matisse whilst also understanding the cruel punishments that were acceptable in the past.

Overall, children have been working their socks off!

MIGHTY OAKS

Mighty Oaks have begun their topic 'We are dinosaur hunters' in science, where they are learning about the evidence that scientists have used to learn about dinosaurs. First, they constructed models of dinosaurs and explored how different features and body shapes help us to understand how they moved.

They then explored the way that fossilised dinosaur faeces (coprolite) can help us to learn about what they ate. To help with this understanding, they all dissected owl pellets. They made some fantastic finds which they were able to identify as the skulls and bones of various small animals and birds including a rat skull and frog shoulder blades!



REMEMBRANCE DAY

The children and staff all gathered outside for the 2 minute silence on Remembrance Day. Poppies from Acorns Class decorated the window and Oaks and Mighty Oaks contributed with a prayer and a beautiful song.

We were so impressed with how calm and respectful the children were and thoughtfulness of their responses.

