

Newsletter December 2022

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 moment's 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?"

Bible story based 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	4
---	---	---	---

Jam is stored in this

5	6	7
---	---	---

Opposite of dark

8	9	10	11
---	---	----	----

Used to carry money

12	13	14	15
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Break the code to discover the message in the story:

11	10	4
----	----	---

7	14	9	12	8	4	14
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11	7	13	14	1	4	1
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5	6	14	13	14
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DATES FOR THE DIARY

19/12/2022 - 02/01/2023: December Holidays

03/01/2023: INSET Day (school closed for pupils)

04/01/2023: Start of Term 3

12/01/2023: Swimming Lessons start

ACORN CLASS

Acorn Class have been busy writing diary entries using our work on The Great Fire of London as our stimulus. The children have been working hard on refining their vocabulary choices in order to describe the chaos of the fire. Our children in Reception (EYFS) have impressed us with their use of phonics this month with all our children writing sentences for their English lessons already !

In Maths, we have been working on 2D and 3D shapes whilst EYFS have been looking at the language of time.

In Science we have been investigating materials, working out what objects are made from and why the certain materials have been chosen.

Our History topic on the Gunpowder Plot and the Great Fire of London has proven very successful with the children taking a keen interest in how we find out about what happened in the past. They have enjoyed finding out about and sequencing the events which took place in 1605 and 1666.

OAKS CLASS

Over the last few weeks, Oaks class have been busy writing sentences for an explanation text using 'The Street Beneath my Feet' for inspiration. They are now writing their very own explanation text by answering the question 'What is beneath my feet?'.

Oaks have also been busy thinking about the Holy Trinity in RE. Oaks have discussed what they think God is like and how Christians show their beliefs to God. They have also recently designed a Christmas card which reflects and uses Christian gospels and discussed how Christians learn about Jesus from these gospels.

MIGHTY OAKS CLASS

We've nearly reached the end of another busy term, sprinkled with Christmas excitement and even some snow!

Mighty Oaks have been learning how to use writing to persuade people to change their point of view or support a venture. We have been working hard learning how to calculate with fractions in mathematics. In science, we have been learning about how the structure of the solar system and movement of the Earth leads to days and nights

and different seasons. In this last week, we will also study the moon, exploring why it appears to change shape and how its orbit affects the tides.

All of the children in KS2 have been learning to hold simple conversations in French, asking and answering questions such as 'How are you? How old are you? What is your name? Where do you live?'. In music we have explored the pentatonic scale used in Chinese music and have composed some tunes of our own using only five notes.

OUTINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Our Christmas events have included no less than two live shows: the first was the entertaining version of 'The True Adventures of Marian and Robin Hood' at the Barn Theatre, where we really enjoyed the way that the cast picked up and played instruments to accompany their own songs; the second was 'The Last Satellite before Christmas', a production by Forefront Theatre at the Baptist Church in Cirencester, which, as well as being very funny and interactive, reminded the children of the true meaning of Christmas. On Monday 12th December, we took part in a carol service at the church, which included games and a visit from Father Christmas! Tuesday evening brought our Christmas concert - a wonderful evening of festive song alongside children from North Cerney School. Many thanks to the members of the church community for providing refreshments for both of these events. Our final flourish was our Christmas lunch and party held on Wednesday, which the children all thoroughly enjoyed.



"The Last Satellite before Christmas" at Cirencester Baptist Church

ATTENDANCE

The whole school attendance for the month of December (up to 16th) is 88.39%.
Acorns class attendance for the month is 91%, Oaks class is 95%, and Mighty Oaks is 81%.

SNOW!



The playground was transformed....



Building Bibury Snow Bear!

ISINGPOP CHRISTMAS CONCERT

From Mrs Pascoe: "The children were amazing, and it was wonderful to see their joy and enthusiasm. Seeing the children from both schools working together so well was such a delight for us all. I am immensely proud of each and every one of the children and I thank them for bringing Christmas joy to the end of our term."



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Getting ready for lunch.....



....and there was a visit from Father Christmas too!



Merry Christmas, Mrs Pascoe!



SCHOOL COUNCIL BAKE SALE

We had a wonderful response to the Bake Sale. Thank you to everyone who donated cupcakes, biscuits, sweets and mince pies, and to those who came to buy on the day. The sale raised a sum of £45.35 which will be donated to the Cirencester Food Bank.



FROM THE GOVERNORS

As we come to the end of another busy term it is with sadness that we must say goodbye to Mrs Lincoln and Mrs Feltham. We wish to express thanks to Mrs Lincoln for all her hard work over the course of the year and wish her every success in her new role. After 14 years we say goodbye to Mrs Feltham and wish her well as she ventures onto pastures new and thank her for her amazing kindness, compassion and enthusiasm. Both will be very much missed by everyone but we know they will keep in touch.

In January we will be joined by Mrs Buse and Mrs Emmerson to the Bibury team and we know that everyone will make them feel welcome.

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and enjoy the time with your families and look forward to seeing you in the new year.

FROM THE PTA

Thank you for your support this term with our fundraisers. Our tombola stall at the village Christmas event raised £123; our wreath workshop was well attended and raised over £500; and our Ragbag bin is regularly being emptied which generates around £50 each time. This has enabled us to provide, this term alone, coaches for trips, a contribution to the iSingPOP concert, a Christmas gift for every child, party food and prizes for the children's Christmas party, and academic success prizes. We appreciate that times are tough but your contributions allow us to provide the 'extras' for all our children.

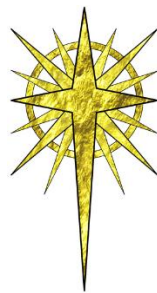
We hope you have a lovely Christmas with your families and we look forward to seeing you in 2023.

Helen Godwin, on behalf of the PTA



LITTLE ACORNS – STARTING SCHOOL SESSIONS

These sessions will commence again in the new year, on 9th January 2023, and will take place every Monday throughout Terms 3, 4, 5 and 6. The sessions run from 1.15pm - 3.00pm. Children will join our Early Years pupils in play-based learning, to develop the skills needed for a successful start to school. If there is anyone that is interested in having their children join these fun and constructive sessions, please contact the school office for more information.



*We wish you all a wonderful holiday,
a blessed, safe and peaceful Christmas,
and a happy New Year!*

