

Newsletter Term 2 - November 2025

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?"

Bible story based on Mark 4:35-40



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
----	----	----	----

Break the code to discover the message in the story:

1	2	3
---	---	---

4	5	6
---	---	---

7	8	9	10	11
---	---	---	----	----

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

8	9	10	11	12	13	14
---	---	----	----	----	----	----



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.



ACORN CLASS

Acorns have been busy again this month. In English, EYFS have been busy learning their phase 3 phonic sounds and using these to write labels and captions. In Years 1 and 2, the children have been developing their sentence writing skills using the book, *The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark* as a stimulus.

In Maths, EYFS have been looking at counting by touching each object as they count. This ensures accurate counting techniques. Year 1 have been looking at place value and numbers to 100. Year 2 have been completing a unit on addition with numbers to 100.

In Science, we are continuing to look at light and dark. We have looked for and found different light sources, both man made and natural, investigated reflective materials and why they are useful in the dark as well as looking at materials and working out which are opaque, translucent and transparent.

In Geography, we have looked at the journeys food makes. Last week we looked at local food producers as well as the journey milk makes to travel from cow to shop. We will be looking at longer food journeys next week and examine some of the journeys made by rice, pineapples and cocoa beans.

In PE we have been playing some invasion games and working on our team work, listening skills, fair play and tactics.

We are currently learning some carols for our Nativity as well as learning how to act out the scenes.

OAKS & MIGHTY OAKS CLASS

Remembrance

On 11th November, the whole school gathered around our memorial. After Max had laid a poppy wreath, we marked the period of silence respectfully before singing a poignant Remembrance Song.



Key Stage 2 English

In English, we have been writing journal entries based on Scott's ill-fated Antarctic expedition. Having also explored Shackleton's later expedition, many of the children have chosen to base their diary entries on his team's adventures. We have been trying to make our writing more interesting by adding description, thoughts and feelings and mixing past, present and future tense. We are also continuing to work on building the range of sentences that we can use and learning how to punctuate these accurately.

Key Stage 2 Music

We have been learning more about South African music and have been learning a traditional Bantu call and response song. We have learned to sing this a capella and used the glockenspiels to play an accompaniment of progressive chords.

Our preparations for Christmas have begun, with the learning of carols and children all now having their parts to support Key Stage One with the Nativity story. Christmas music club is also underway – the children have been learning to play Jingle Bells on both recorder and piano.

Year 5/6 Science

In science, years 5 and 6 have begun to explore materials. We have been thinking about materials are suited to different tasks due to their properties and children have planned and carried out investigations to answer questions. Last week, a group recommended the type of cloth that would be the best for Mrs. Davies to dry her dog, by finding out which was the most absorbent. Other groups explored the properties of balls, by exploring which had the most bounce.

