

# Newsletter Term 2 - December 2025

Our Christian value this term is: Perseverance.



## PERSEVERANCE

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

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

### TALK ABOUT PERSEVERANCE TOGETHER...

Teachers often say that **perseverance** is something that many children find difficult.

Very little that is really worthwhile in life can be achieved without **perseverance**. An athlete may train for years before they are ready to compete at the highest level. A musician must practice every day, sometimes for hours at a time, if they are to really master their instrument.

- How would each family member rate themselves on a scale of 1 - 10 at **perseverance**?
- Can you give an example of something you have achieved by determined **perseverance**?
- Is there a skill that you think you could improve with **perseverance**?



### READ TOGETHER...

#### The Widow Who Never Gave Up

There was once a judge living in a town just like this one, said Jesus to the crowd of people who were listening to him and hanging on his every word. This judge did not care much about God or justice. The crowd muttered to one another and smiled knowingly, they all knew judges like him! A poor widow, called Sarah, lived in the same town. She was being treated badly by her neighbour who was making her life very difficult indeed.

Sarah went to the judge to ask him to hear her case and give her justice.

At first the judge tried to ignore her. Silly old woman he thought. Why won't she leave me alone. Doesn't she realise that I have more important things to deal with?

But Sarah **persevered**. You are my only hope she told the judge. You must help me. Day after day she went to see him.

In the end, the judge was so exasperated that he thought to himself I will never get a minutes peace unless I help this old woman.

Finally he let her explain to him the problems that she was facing and agreed that Sarah's neighbour was indeed behaving very badly and must be made to stop at once. Sarah's **perseverance** paid off and eventually she got the justice she deserved.

So keep **persevering** and keep praying said Jesus to the crowd.

© This story based on Luke 18:1-8



### QUIZ Wordsearch

PERSEVERANCE  
DAY  
HELP  
HOPE  
IGNORE  
JUDGE  
JUSTICE  
KEEP  
NEIGHBOUR  
PROBLEMS  
SARAH  
WIDOW

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### THINK TOGETHER ABOUT WORDS OF WISDOM

"If at first you don't succeed try, try and try again."  
W.E. Hickson



## FAMILY FOCUS

### The Perseverance Challenge

Ask each member of the family to write (on identical pieces of paper) a challenge that will require **perseverance** to complete. Fold the paper 4 times and place it in a bag with the others. Invite each person to place their hand into the bag (whilst looking the other way) and pick out a challenge which they have one week to complete. (Think carefully about the challenge you set and if possible make it a worthwhile and useful thing to do).



### HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE



Mosaics are one of the oldest ways to make art. People have been arranging tiny coloured pieces of glass or pottery for thousands of years to create beautiful designs. But the process is time consuming and needs lots of **perseverance**. This term's Home-School Challenge is to make a mosaic picture (no bigger than A3 – 29x42cm) using small pieces of coloured paper. The subject of your mosaic is up to you. It could be a pattern or a picture.

All the pictures submitted will be displayed in our school Challenge Gallery.



## HALL OF FAME

### Prince George

Prince George had always been shy and had developed a stammer, which meant he could not speak for very long without struggling to say the words he wanted to say.

His elder brother, Edward, was very different. He was confident, loved to be the centre of attention and was destined to become King of England.

But soon after the coronation, King Edward announced that he was going to abdicate – to give up being king. His younger brother would now become king in his place. George was horrified! He felt sick with fright. Now he would be expected to deliver speeches and give radio broadcasts to millions! How would he be able to do this with his dreadful stammer? But George knew that it was his duty to serve his country.



He knew that he must overcome his fears and do his very best. He employed an Australian speech therapist to help him and with **perseverance** and great courage George was able to face the challenges ahead. When war was declared in 1939 King George gave a famous speech. He comforted and encouraged his people and won everyone's respect because they knew how brave he was being.



### FASCINATING FACTS

#### Perseverance in the Natural World

Many birds show remarkable **perseverance** as they build their nests, piece by piece often in cold, wet and windy weather and at risk from predators.

The long-tailed tit is just one example. Weighing just 9g, this little bird takes 3 weeks or more to build a nest. The oval shaped nest is made from moss, cobwebs and hair, covered on the outside with lichen and lined with up to 2000 tiny feathers!





Merry Christmas to all our families from everyone at Bibury School. Thank you for a wonderful term, and we look forward to an exciting year ahead.

### ACORN CLASS

Happy Christmas from all of us in Acorns Class

We have had a busy December and the children are all looking forward to the Christmas holiday. Acorns Class have enjoyed rehearsing and dressing up for their Nativity. I am so proud of how they have all played their parts, sung their hearts out and performed with smiles on their faces. It was lovely to back in St Mary's Church for our production especially with the church decorated so beautifully.

In English we have finished writing reports about dragons. The children had great fun inventing their own dragon and thinking of special features and powers ! In Science, we have been learning about light and we have finished off the term investigating nocturnal animals and hibernation. The children all have little bug houses to bring home to hang in your trees for our overwintering bee friends.

In Art, the children have had a lovely time collaging. They have created some lovely wintery scenes using collage techniques - it was lovely to watch them all happily working away in a calm and quiet classroom !

We are looking forward to the end of term as I write. May I wish you all a very happy Christmas. I hope that you all have a lovely time celebrating and will see you again in 2026.

### OAKS & MIGHTY OAKS CLASS

English

In English, all the children have been reading versions of 'A Christmas Carol'. We have written a letter to Mr. Scrooge, persuading him to change his ways and give generously to the poor. We are following this up with our letters to factory owners asking them to pay better wages, provide a canteen and to stop employing young children.

## Drumba

We all enjoyed a visit from Sadie, who is a physical education leader from Kingshill, last week. She brought with her a set of equipment for Drumba, an activity that we had not tried before. All the children really enjoyed trying to keep up with the moves - it was a great workout and lots of fun!



## Science

In the last couple of weeks, Oaks Class have been continuing their work looking at the properties of materials. We have used sieving and magnetism to separate dry materials and filtering to separate solids in suspensions. We also investigated the factors that would allow solutes to dissolve more quickly in water. Finally, this week, we mixed a saturated solution, which we are using to grow crystals. As the water evaporates, it can no longer hold on to the solid dissolved within it, so this reforms in a crystalline structure. I have challenged the children to



try and grow their own salt or sugar crystals over the holiday period and to let us know how they get on.

