

Welcome to our Christian Values newsletter from our Collective Worship Councillors.  
The aim of this newsletter is to tell you all about our chosen Christian Value for Term 3.

## PERSEVERANCE



The story of **The Tortoise And The Hare** is a good perseverance story to read and enjoy together.

Our focus Bible story for Perseverance is **The Parable Of The Lost Sheep** (Matthew 18:12-14) A parable is a simple story that has a lesson that can be learnt from it. Jesus used parables as a way of encouraging those listening to be a better person within.

We chose perseverance as one of our Christian Values because we strive for our children to have motivation, self-belief (two of our Character Education traits) and aspiration to reach their potential in all areas of their lives. We recognise that a positive culture of perseverance is essential throughout their school journey. There are lots of verses in the Bible that encourage Christians to persevere and these pieces of scripture help to motivate us all. Jesus frequently encouraged his disciples to "endure patiently" the difficulties and obstacles they encountered and to persevere in the face of adversity. We believe it is necessary to teach our pupils that things that are often worthwhile in life cannot be achieved without perseverance, that life is sometimes difficult and that it is important not to give up in the face of adversity. We regularly praise our pupils for their perseverance in our weekly 'Golden Book' Collective Worships in front of their peers and parents/carers.

### 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**?



### 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).



### 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.

### A Reminder Of Our Academy Vision

We are a community in which everyone is offered the opportunity to fulfil their potential, to understand themselves and be valued for who they are. Through a stimulating and challenging learning environment, we pursue academic excellence and seek the flourishing of all. This is because we are all God's children.

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you ever can." John Wesley

We believe the Christian Values that we have chosen strongly represent our Academy Trust. We encourage our pupils to reflect on and articulate our values to each other, to you their parents and carers, to staff and to visitors. The Bible has so much to offer us in terms of positive personal, relational and community values, and its timeless wisdom can help us pass on to the next generation the qualities of life that are most valuable and which, as a church school, we believe are not only God-given but also can be God-energised in our lives. We develop our values through modelling it to one another; looking at Christian scripture and stories in Collective Worship. Through whole school worship, class worship, relationships and discussions, we use bible stories to provide examples of our values and also explicitly give examples of how our pupils can show and recognise these values within our schools.

"Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." 1 Corinthians 13:7