Welcome to the latest Christian Values newsletter from our Collective Worship Team.
The aim of this newsletter is to tell you about our Christian Value for this term.

# FORGIVENESS

**Our focus Bible story this term is the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10) which can be found in the New Testament.**

We appreciate that forgiveness is fundamental to the character of God. Throughout the Bible, God is described as slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin. Jesus also teaches forgiveness. Forgiveness was at the heart of everything he did and is at the heart of the Lord's Prayer. We inspire our pupils to forgive others and themselves knowing that forgiveness cannot be given or received unless it is asked for, and this must come from the heart. We ensure that our pupils understand that forgiveness can be difficult because of the hurt involved but Christians believe that they have the ability to forgive others not because they're good people or because they want to do the right thing, but because God has given us the capacity to forgive and He forgave us first. We teach our pupils that the value of forgiveness is that it allows us to be more like Christ and when we forgive we are able to move forward and have a fresh start.

*"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."*
Ephesians 4:32

# HALL OF FAME



Nelson Mandela

- He forgave those who imprisoned him for 27 years and worked for peace in South Africa.
- "Forgiveness liberates the soul. It removes fear. That is why it is such a powerful weapon."

What we can learn from him: Even in difficult situations, forgiveness can bring peace and healing.

## Terry Waite



- A British humanitarian and Church of England envoy.
- He was held hostage in Lebanon for nearly five years (most of it in solitary confinement). After his release, he chose to forgive his captors rather than seek revenge.
- "To be forgiven, we must first forgive, no matter how hard it may be."

What we can learn from him: Even in the toughest times, forgiveness is a choice that brings peace.



## Mahatma Gandhi

- He believed in non-violence and forgiveness, even when facing great injustice.
- "The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong."

What we can learn from him: Forgiveness takes courage and strength.

## Malala Yousafzai



- Even after being attacked for wanting education, she forgave her attackers and continued to promote peace.
- "You must not treat others with cruelty. You must fight others through peace and through dialogue."

What we can learn from her: Forgiveness can help change the world for the better.



## Martin Luther King Jr.

- He promoted love and forgiveness instead of revenge in the Civil Rights Movement.
- "Forgiveness is not an occasional act, it is a constant attitude."

What we can learn from him: Holding onto hate doesn't help – love and forgiveness change the world.

*"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."* Luke 6:37