



## Our Christian Values

We asked children, parents, governors and staff what they saw as the most important Christian Values for our school. The ones that were chosen were:

### **Trust    Kindness    Peace    Perseverance**

Some children, parents, governors and staff have a very good understanding of these values and their importance in our school life. We all understand that we chose them because they are what make our school a caring place to be nurtured and grow.

Sometimes it is difficult to put into words the distinctively Christian aspects of these values that are important for us as a church school.

#### **Trust**

We learn about Trust being important in all relationships, including being able to trust God. Trust is rooted in truth and in relationships we need to show that we can be reliable and trustworthy. We think about this in our friendships and in our school and families. We look at role models who demonstrate different kinds of trust. God's commitment to humanity is seen through how he trusts ordinary people to carry out his purposes through history; we look at the example of Mary the mother of Jesus. We also learn about Jesus's friends learning that they can trust him when life is difficult. 'The storm on the Lake' Matthew 8 verse 24

*"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me." John 14: 1*

#### **Kindness**

Christians believe that their attitudes and actions must reflect the kindness, mercy and compassion of Jesus and the love of God for everyone. There are lots of examples of Bible stories that illustrate this including Jesus feeds the 5000 and the Good Samaritan. The Good Samaritan encourages children to reflect on 'Who is my neighbour' and puts kindness into a global context.

*'Love one another as I have loved you' John 15 verse 12*

*"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgive each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you." Ephesians 4: 32*

## Peace

Jesus said 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God' Matthew 5verse 9. In this value we look at the word 'Shalom' meaning peace in the sense of total well -being; we introduce the idea of 'sharing the peace' with each other. We learn about Francis of Assisi and examples of people who are working for peace and justice in the world.

*"Now may the Lord of Peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you." Thessalonians 3: 16*

## Perseverance

Jesus frequently encouraged his disciples to 'endure patiently' the difficulties that they encountered and persevere in the face of adversity. Jesus himself trusted God even when his enemies tried to stop his work and plot his death. We encourage the pupils and give them skills to persevere through difficult times, through examples from the Bible such as the story of Nehemiah re-building the walls of Jerusalem and also real life examples of heroes who have persevered through illness or difficulties. This links well with work on British values and cross curricular work in History eg. Battle of Britain, and in Science, eg. Thomas Edison, inventor of the electric light bulb. We also learn about God's persevering love for each individual. Through the story of the lost sheep where the shepherd went out late at night to look for one lost sheep, the children learn that just as the shepherd cared for each of his sheep, so God cares for each of us - Luke chapter 15.

*"Let us run with perseverance the race that lies before us. Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end." Hebrews 12:1-2*