



# Newsletter - Term 3 - December 2024

Our Christian value this term is: Compassion

## COMPASSION HOME SCHOOL VALUES

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

### TALK ABOUT COMPASSION TOGETHER...

**Compassion** is about 'standing in someone else's shoes' when they are having a hard time. In other words, trying to understand how they might be feeling and doing our best to try to help.

Talk together about:

- how we can show **compassion** and kindness to one another at home
- recognising when friends at school need us to listen and act with **compassion**
- stories in the news demonstrating how strangers show **compassion** in times of natural disasters
- how nations show **compassion** to other nations at times of disaster or need by sending money or volunteers to help



### THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

*Aesop*



### READ TOGETHER...

#### The good Samaritan

When someone asked Jesus the question, "Who is my neighbour?" he told a story that surprised everyone who heard it. The hero was from Samaria but those listening were mainly Jews. (Jews and Samaritans usually kept well away from each other.)

"A man set out on foot from Jerusalem to a town called Jericho", said Jesus. The crowd murmured and exchanged knowing glances. They knew this was a lonely, dangerous road, a favourite place for robbers to attack travellers. "As the man reached a rocky and desolate place, a gang of robbers leapt out and beat him. They took all that he had and left him bleeding and bruised. To the man's relief, he saw in the distance a priest from the temple. A priest is bound to help me, thought the man. He waited until the priest came a little closer and then called out, 'Thank goodness it is you. Please Sir, take me to safety.' But to his amazement the priest hurried past pretending not to see or hear him.

As the poor, injured man grew weaker and weaker in the burning midday sun, he once again heard footsteps. Looking up he saw a Levite, another of his own people. 'Please Sir, please help me', he called out. Surely this Levite would take pity on him, but to his horror the Levite just kept on walking.

The man had almost given up hope when he felt a gentle touch on his shoulder. A stranger, a Samaritan, had bent down beside him and was bandaging his wounds and giving him sips of water to drink. The Samaritan helped the man on to his own donkey and slowly, carefully took him all the way to an inn. There he paid the innkeeper to look after the man until he was well. The man never forgot the **compassion** and kindness of the Samaritan stranger."

"Who do you think was a good neighbour?" asked Jesus.

Little story based on Luke 10:29-31



### QUIZ The Stranger on the road was kind....

Change one letter in the word to answer the next clue.

- The traveller was attacked as he walked along the **ROAD**
- Watching from the rocks was a small creature like a frog -----
- The Samaritan \_\_\_\_ the innkeeper to look after the man -----
- The Samaritan acted with courage. He was \_\_\_\_ -----
- We sometimes talk about the \_\_\_\_ of friendship (rhymes with pond) -----
- Wrap tightly with a bandage (rhymes with find) -----
- The Samaritan in the story was -----



## FAMILY FOCUS

### Random Acts of Kindness

Kindness is often appreciated most when it is offered at unexpected times.

Choose one week this term for your family to have "a random acts of kindness" week, and do something kind for someone each day. Try to do it without telling people it was you!



[www.randomactsofkindness.org](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org)



## HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE



### Helping hands

As well as being kind and showing **compassion** in what we say, it is often what we *do* that other people remember.

Draw and cut out the shape of each person's hand in your family. Decorate it with all the random acts of kindness that they have shown. Mount the hands of each member of your family on some paper so they look fantastic and ready to be displayed.



## FASCINATING FACTS

What a difference **compassion** and kindness can make! Numerous charities help people who have been hurt, are ill or suffer through lack of resources. Below are just 3:

- **World Vision** encourages individuals and groups to 'Sponsor a Child' in an area of the world where food, health and education cannot be taken for granted. For just 75 pence a day the life of a child, in for example Uganda or Bolivia, can be transformed by providing help to grow food, source clean water, improve health services and pay for education.

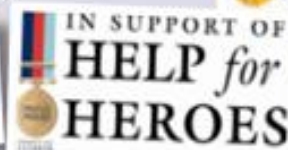
[www.worldvision.org.uk](http://www.worldvision.org.uk)

- **Help for Heroes** was set up after many British soldiers returned from war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan. By giving to this charity the public show their **compassion** for the soldiers and their families and recognise the service they gave on behalf of us all.

[www.helpforheroes.org.uk](http://www.helpforheroes.org.uk)

- **Help the Hospices.** Sometimes when people become very ill they go to a hospice which will provide them with care and **compassion**. Often hospices are maintained by donations from people who admire and value their service or who have had a relative who has been helped by the hospice.

[www.helpthehospices.org.uk](http://www.helpthehospices.org.uk)



## HALL OF FAME

### A famous bear with a spotty scarf



Pudsey Bear became a national mascot in 1985. He was designed by Joanna Ball and she named him after the small town in Yorkshire where she lived and went to school for many years, Pudsey.

When we see Pudsey Bear we immediately think of Children in Need. This charity has grown enormously since it began and raises millions of pounds every year. Thanks to people all over the country, children in the UK and across the world have come to know real kindness and **compassion**, made possible by generous donations to the charity. [www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey](http://www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey)

## FOREST SCHOOL

Another great adventure had by all EYFS children, at Forest School, with Miss Law.



Forest school this week. Collecting little pinchy bits and leaves to create hedgehogs and trees.



## CHRISTMAS FAIR



A lovely Christmas fair on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Thank you to the NCSA for holding this event again this year and thank you to everyone who came along and joined in! It was great fun.

## SPACE DOME

Owl and Kingfisher had a great time in the space dome this month. They were able to zoom in on the planets in our solar system. The children were also able to see our Sun close up. It was a fantastic experience for all!



## PANTOMIME

Another wonderful pantomime at Cirencester Baptist Church. The KS2 children had such fun! Oh yes, they did....



## NCSA SCHOOL DISCO

What a fantastic disco! Thank you so much to the NCSA for organising. The children had an amazing time and their faces were glowing.



## CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL

A huge thank you to Nick and Abbie from Cheltenham Festivals for coming to North Cerney to teach the children about tempo, pitch and the differences between classical and jazz music.



## NORTH CERNEY AND BIBURY NATIVITY CAROL SERVICE

All the children at the Nativity Carols Service put on a wonderful performance. The KS1 children looked lovely in their costumes and all the children KS1 and KS2, sang beautifully.



Another amazing year at North Cerney C of E Primary Academy.

Thank you to the Teachers and the children for all their hard work and to the NCSA and all parents for all your support. Such a lovely performance this festive season by all the children, we hope they all have a well-deserved break. See you all on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025!

