



Kingsland CE Primary School

Let your light shine

“Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”
(Matthew 5:16)



This half term's Christian value is:

LOVE

Educating for Hope and Aspiration

A prayer of LOVE

Creator God, Thank you that each of us is precious in your sight, and loved. Help us to feel that love each and every day. May we find that same love for everyone within our class at school and at home so that no one is left out; in Jesus' name. Amen



Christian Value Family Reflection

Welcome to our Christian Value Family Reflection which offers some suggestions, thoughts and ways into exploring and reflecting on the value of this half term: **LOVE**

A reflection on LOVE by Rev. Julie Read

Did you know that our word LOVE has 4 different Greek words ...?

1. storge (meaning affection) is the everyday care we have for each other, the people we share our class with, or the people who work with us
2. philia (meaning friendship) and the love of friends, the ones we choose to share our time with outside of school hours, or who carry on after we have left school and moved onto other things
3. eros (meaning romantic love) and the pull that draws couples together to share their whole lives and set up home together
4. agape (meaning charity) and is the unconditional love that God the Father gives us in sending his Son, Jesus, to show us how to live, how to be, what is important. It is love that forgives when things go wrong, and is the most precious type of love that there is.

St Paul sums up this last kind of love in these famous words that we often hear at weddings, and they tell us what God is like, for God is love. Here is the beginning of 1 Corinthians Chapter 13:

LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND, IT IS NOT BOASTFUL OR ENVIOUS OR ARROGANT OR RUDE, IT DOES NOT INSIST ON ITS OWN WAY, IT IS NOT IRRITABLE OR RESENTFUL, IT DOES NOT REJOICE IN WRONG DOING, BUT REJOICES IN THE TRUTH...

I often say that this is the ideal that we should hold up, but realise that we often find it difficult. I know that I wasn't always patient with my teenage children.... When are times that you find it difficult to love?

Jesus told a story, a parable, about love, making sure that everyone is included, everyone is looked after, everyone is safe. It was about a farmer, well a shepherd really, who had 100 sheep, and every night he would call them into the sheepfold (his specially made stone-walled safe place) and count them in ... 97, 98, 99, 100. One evening, he counted them in ... 97, 98, 99 ... but there was one missing. What do you think he did? Did he think "Oh well, I have 99 sheep, that's pretty good, I need to care for them"? No he left the 99 safely shut up for the night and went out to look for the lost sheep. As the night fell, he found it caught up in a bramble and, prizing it loose, he put it over his shoulder and carried it home. THAT IS LOVE, making sure that EVERYONE is safe, and that EVERYONE lives well ... exactly what we aim to do at school.

I wonder if you can look out for everyone in your class as we start the new school year... making sure that everyone is safe, and doesn't get lost in their lessons, everyone has someone to play with, everyone is happy, and perhaps the words that you say to someone could be "HOW CAN I HELP?"