



Newsletter

December 2025

Our Christian value this term is: Trust

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We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TRUST

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

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TALK ABOUT TRUST TOGETHER...

Trust is a really important value. It must be earned. If we do not **trust** someone it is very hard to build a good friendship with them. Talk together about:

- people who you know that are **trustworthy**
- practical ways that we can show others that we are **trustworthy**
- why it is important to be able to **trust** others when working together as a team

THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"**Trusting** someone is like knowing you can jump and they will be there to catch you"

Anon



FASCINATING FACTS

The Royal National Lifeboat Institute (RNLI)

When the crew and passengers of boats get into difficulty at sea, they can **trust** the lifeboat crews from RNLI to try their very best to rescue them. Many of the crew and coastguards are volunteers.

- There are over 230 lifeboat stations all around the coast of Britain & Ireland
- Crews are on call 24 hours a day, every day of the year. They must be ready to drop what they are doing at a moments notice to go out on their lifeboat



READ TOGETHER...

The Storm on the Lake

The disciples were just exhausted. All day crowds and crowds of people had been following Jesus, listening as he taught them about God's love and watching as he healed people who were ill. Now the sun was beginning to set over the Sea of Galilee. Seeing how tired his friends were, Jesus said, "Let's get in a boat and go over to the other side of the lake."

They rowed away from the shore while Jesus went to the front of the boat and lay down. The waves lapped gently against the side of the boat, lulling Jesus into a peaceful sleep.

Suddenly the wind began to blow dark clouds across the sky. The waves weren't so gentle anymore. The little boat began to pitch and rock. The men looked anxiously across the lake. But Jesus still lay sleeping in the front of the boat.

The wind blew stronger. Great gusts rocked the boat. Spray from the waves soaked everyone inside. But still Jesus lay sleeping in the front of the boat.

By the time they reached the centre of the lake, the wind had turned into an angry gale that whipped the waves so high that they washed right over the boat. Jesus' friends were terrified. They thought they might drown. But still Jesus slept on.

Finally, one of Jesus' friends went and shook him awake. "Master," he cried, "don't you care if we drown?" Jesus looked around. He listened to the howling wind. He felt the cold, stinging spray of the waves. He saw the fear in the faces of his disciples.

Jesus stood, stretched out his arms to the wind and the waves, and commanded: "Peace! Be still!" At once the wind died down and the waves became completely calm. Turning to them, Jesus asked the disciples: "Why are you so afraid? Do you not **trust** me?"

Bible story based on Mark 4:35-41



QUIZ Crack the code

Answer the clues to find the letter corresponding to each number and then fill in the message.

Thrown in a board game

1 2 3 4 5

Jam is stored in this

6 7 8

Opposite of dark

9 10 11 12 13

Used to carry money

14 15 16 17 18

Break the code to discover the message in the story:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100



FAMILY FOCUS

Get Knotting

Knot tying is an important skill for every crew member on board a sailing ship. For the various parts of the sails and rigging different knots are used and the crew have to **trust** that the knots are tied properly and will hold.

We all use knots occasionally to hold something securely in place.

See if you can master these knots:

A Clove Hitch knot, to secure a rope to a post.



A Reef knot to join 2 ropes together.



HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Build a Boat

This term's Home School Value has a watery theme. The challenge is to use scrap materials to construct a boat that floats and has a working sail.

Use a hairdryer to check that the sail really does catch the wind and move the boat across the water.



HALL OF FAME

Ernest Shackleton

From the time that he was a small boy Ernest Shackleton longed to go to sea. At sixteen he got his chance and joined the crew of a ship sailing to and from the Far East and America. This was the start of an amazing life of daring and discovery.

In December, 1914, Shackleton set out on perhaps his most famous voyage. It was his third expedition to Antarctica. His ship was called the "Endurance" and his mission to travel 1500 miles across Antarctica. Just 5 weeks later, "Endurance" became frozen in pack ice, unable to move. After being stuck for months the boat began to buckle, crushed by the ice. The crew was forced to abandon ship. They set up camp on an ice floe, but this was too dangerous so Shackleton and his men set out in three lifeboats. After six days, the men reached an isolated, uninhabited spot called Elephant Island.

Shackleton knew that for his men to survive, he must fetch help from a whaling station. It was 800 miles away but it was their only hope! Putting their complete **trust** in him and knowing their leader would return if it was humanly possible, the men watched as Shackleton and four others rowed away. Six long months followed before Shackleton was finally able to rescue his men 126 days later, after a journey of nearly 1600 miles.

Shackleton's courage and the **trust** he inspired in his men live on in legend.



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM MRS PASCOE



Merry Christmas to all our families from everyone at North Cerney Primary.

Thank you for a wonderful term, and we look forward to an exciting year ahead.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR

The Christmas Choir performed at the NCSA Christmas fete.

Thank you so much Mrs Livermore for running the After School Club for Choir and Leading them on the day! They all sang beautifully.



CHRISTMAS FETE

Thank you to everyone who came to the NCSA Christmas Fete. It was a wonderful afternoon, and lovely to see so many of our school community there.

Special shout out to Mrs Buse and Mrs de Carles for running the tombola. And the NCSA who did an amazing job!



**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
from All the staff at North Cerney!**

