



The Manor C of E Primary School

Values Newsletter Term 3: Honesty

Welcome back to a new term and a new year, hello 2022!



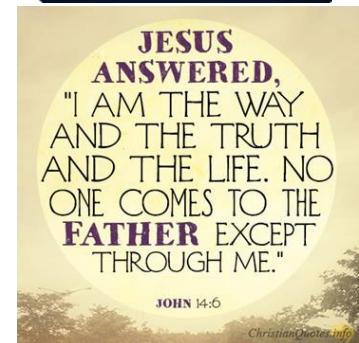
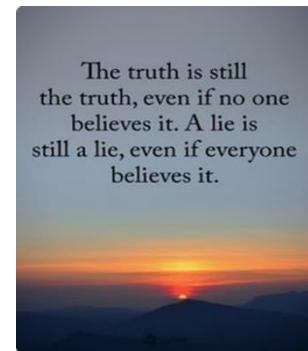
I wonder how many of you will have made New Year's Resolutions? Resolutions are a promise to yourself that you will do something/ commit to something this year. I wonder now, how many of you will be able to link one of your resolutions to one of our Values? Perhaps remembering to be **thankful** for everything we have, rather than focusing on the things we don't have. Perhaps it might be to remember to be a good **friend** and neighbour, to show **compassion** in our daily lives and to have the **courage** to go for our goals! If yours is to tell the **truth**, even when it is difficult, then this term's Bible story about a man who was dishonest, will interest you. It also includes another of our Values; **Forgiveness** as Jesus recognised this man's desire to change. After all, isn't that what life is about...learning from our mistakes?



There was once a man who didn't have any friends (none!) It wasn't because he was short, it wasn't because he was a tax collector (although, he was both of these). It was because he was **dishonest**. He collected more taxes than he should have and kept the money for himself! He made himself a rich man by stealing other people's money! People knew what he was up to, but he was powerful, so they didn't dare say anything. So, Zacchaeus (because that was his name) had no friends – nobody liked him, and nobody trusted him!

One day, a huge crowd had gathered because they had heard that Jesus was coming to town. Now Zacchaeus had heard about Jesus too and really wanted to see him – there was something Jesus had said that had planted a seed in his heart. Nobody would let Zacchaeus get to the front of the crowd to see him (which wasn't surprising as no one liked him), and he couldn't see over everyone's heads but he had a good idea. He climbed up a nearby tree so that he could get a better look. In fact, he had a perfect view! When Jesus came alongside the tree, he saw Zacchaeus and called up to him by name- yes, Jesus knew his name- and told him that he wanted to come to his house!

Needless to say, the people were quite cross that Jesus wanted to spend time with such a dishonest man, so they booed him and shouted hurtful names. Jesus knew exactly what he was doing though, and once inside his house, Zacchaeus confessed all the bad things he had done because he felt so ashamed! He promised Jesus that he would give everyone's money back (and more!) and he did just that.



Aspire, Believe, Achieve
Shine Like Stars in the Sky
Philippians 2 v15



Lord God,

Jesus taught us the value of Honesty. Help us to always try to be truthful to ourselves and others and know that God will always forgive us if we are truly sorry.

Amen.