

Christian Values



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools Report 2014 states 'Core Christian values, recognise and understood by all members of the community are evident in the children's behaviour, attitudes to learning and their relationships with one another'.

One child commented to the inspector that 'The values are us - you can't separate them from us'.

School's commitment to teaching through Christian values was recognised by parents who 'commented on the huge difference this make on the children's eagerness to learn'.

'Pupils are polite, kind and get on well with each other..... social, moral, spiritual and cultural development is good, because of the strong focus on respect for rights, and the high quality care the school gives to each pupil.' Ofsted 2013

Our Christian Values, which emanate from the life and teaching of Jesus, underpin every aspect of school life at St Thomas's. We aim to model and promote these values in all that we do; our chosen core values are forgiveness, respect, truthfulness, service and koinonia. The centrality of these values is further recognised by our Christian Values Award which is given out in our weekly Celebration Assembly.

Truthfulness is . . . In John's Gospel Jesus is described as 'the Way, the Truth and the Life'. In school we all try to be truthful to ourselves.

Forgiveness is . . . More than just saying sorry. We can forgive because we are forgiven. "Be compassionate and kind to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

Service is . . . individuals laying selfish things aside for the needs of others. That is why Jesus said that he 'came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

Respect is . . . "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." We should not say or do anything unless we can answer "Yes" to the question, "Would I want that said or done to me?" Neither should we fail to do the good things we would expect of others, whatever their background, culture or religion.

Koinonia is . . . The special relationship that we have with each other, where we as a community look after each other.

Each term we study one of the Christian Values, and produce a display in the hall. These displays reflect our teaching, learning and understanding of how to care for one another.

Our Core Value for the Summer Term is Service. Our prayer for this term, linked to our value is:

Loving God, you make us in your image. Forgive us when we fail to see your image in each other and when we give in to greed and indifference. As we are made in your image let us live in your image and be Christ-like in service, endurance and love.

Amen