

God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say 'thank you?'

William Arthur Ward

Our Christian Value this term is

Thankfulness

“It is not happy people who are thankful, it is thankful people who are happy”

Unknown

What the Bible teaches us about Thankfulness...

The concept of **thankfulness** is important in Christianity, and can be seen especially in worship where songs and prayers of **thankfulness** and praise are an important feature. Paul tells his readers to be thankful in all circumstances (I Thessalonians chapter 5 verse 18) and it is this conviction that everything is ultimately for good to those who love God that has sustained believers through the most dreadful trials.

Saying thank you to other people is also important. The story of the ten lepers (Luke chapter 17: verses 11-19), in which only one came back to say thank you for his healing is a message for us all. Another practical outworking of **thankfulness** to God is generosity to other people (Acts chapter 20 verse 35): the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'



Thankfulness is....

- Thinking of good things
- Happy memories
- All creation praising God
- Not taking anything for granted
- Keeping focused on the positive
- Feeling blessed
- Understanding the sacrifices people make for us
- Living joyfully
- Not complaining
- Expressing gratitude to God
- Saying thank you to those who help us
- Showing gratefulness by our deeds

This term we will be thinking about what **thankfulness** means and how we can show this value in school.

In schools there are many opportunities to be generous with time and support, and many people who work in schools or support them give “above and beyond the call of duty”. It is always important to remember to say thank you—especially for those things or those people that get taken for granted!

Throughout the term we will be exploring this value using a variety of Bible stories including; the story of Noah, the Parable of the Lost Son, Jesus Heals a Man with Leprosy and the story of Jairus' Daughter. We hope that through these stories we will learn more about the value of **thankfulness**.