

"Virtues to Live by"

"Our educational work should have a purpose: to elicit a change in our students, to make them grow in wisdom, to help them undergo a transformation, to provide them with knowledge, with new feelings and, at the same time, achievable ideals."

(Pope Francis 2013)

Summer Term:

CONFIDENCE

Blessing

O God our Father,
We bring to you this day all our work and relationships.
We ask for your blessings on them, knowing that you are doing beyond all that we can desire or pray for.
Through our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen

OPENING PRAYER:

God our Father, you created us and know our every need, concern and worry. You created each of us with some special work to do for you, that no one else can do.

You love us individually as your precious sons and daughters and want us to come to you with every detail of our lives. May our confidence in your fatherly love grow each day.

Through our Lord, Jesus Christ Your son who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen**

READING:

Let us be confident, then, and say:
"The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"
Hebrews 13:6

REFLECTION

As adults working in a school community, we instinctively know how important it is to build a child's confidence to enable them to flourish fully.

Think about how you do this without even thinking every day.

You will let them know you are there to help and explain so they can come to you and ask questions.

You will give them opportunities to practise new things regularly.

You will speak encouraging words as they make small or big steps forward.

You will let them know that if they make mistakes, that it's all part of growing and that's OK.

As adults too we need to keep growing in confidence.

We are blessed with other people to encourage and guide and teach us but that isn't enough.

The Holy Spirit is our teacher and He will encourage and prompt us and sometimes even correct us when we need it, so that we too can grow in confidence.

As the children listen to the teacher in the classroom, we too need to practise listening to God in our hearts as we let Him guide us and teach us.

He doesn't want us to be afraid of new challenges before us.

He wants us to feel safe in His care.

He wants us to place our confidence in Him and His ways.

Are you lacking in confidence in some way today?

Bring that now to your loving Father in the quiet of this moment and ask Him to show you a way forward.

Ask Him to help you.

LIVING OUR VIRTUE

Inspire each one of us that we may help our children to:

- think positively
- be willing to try new things
- believe in themselves
- know they are worthwhile whether they succeed or fail
- trust that God will support them

- keep going even when they find things difficult.

May we support our children in recognising opportunities for growth so that they can make the most of the opportunities life presents.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

God our Father,

Help us to recognise our need to place our confidence in you and your perfect will for our lives.

May we recognise the gifts and skills you give us and use them confidently for your glory, knowing you are always with us, wanting us to flourish and live without fear.

Help us to encourage one another and to turn to you for your guidance and grace each day.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. **Amen**

VIRTUE TO LIVE BY

I am able to do things without fear or doubt.

I place my trust in God and know that He gives me strength.