FOCUS VALUE – COURAGE

Basic to Christian faith is the belief that God is present in every situation, and this has led to great acts of courage. Courage takes many forms: it may mean facing up to opposition or personal danger; it may mean overcoming your personal fears or phobias; it could mean making a stand for the right. The Bible is full of such stories of courage: David and Goliath; Daniel in the lions’ den; Paul on his missionary journeys; Jesus himself in the Garden of Gethsemane. For Christians 'having courage' or 'strength to carry on' is linked to faith in God's promises - promises of God's presence, protection and power. When we encourage others we are helping them to find courage. One of the most often repeated commands of God in the Bible is 'do not be afraid'. It is said that it comes at least 365 times - once for every day of the year! Christians recognise that human courage alone is sometimes not enough. They need the assurance of God's help and presence to stick to what they know is right.

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|  | **MONDAY**  **(Y5/6 BUBBLE IN HALL)** | | | **TUESDAY**  **(Y2,3,4 BUBBLE IN HALL)** | | | **WEDNESDAY** | | | | **THURSDAY** | | | | | | **FRIDAY** |
| **FOCUS** | **COURAGE** | | | **COURAGE** | | | **BIBLE STORIES** | | | | **REFELECTION** | | | | | | **CELEBRATION** |
| **WB 7/9/20** | What is courage? What does it mean to be courageous? Other words for courageous?  During lockdown, how did people show courage? Children to think of key workers putting others first. (PPT)  Christians believe that courage is linked to God’s promise to them.  Prayer - *Dear God, you know that I often feel frightened at the moment. Frightened about what will happen to me, to those I love and to our school community. But I know* *that you have been with me, I know that you will be with us today and I know that you will be with me in the future. Give me courage to do the big things, the little things and the difficult things that will make a difference to someone else today. Amen* | | | | PPT – pic of stormy sea with music  How would you feel if you were at sea in this storm?  Story of the apostle Paul putting his faith in God. Shipwreck!p338 of Lion bible for Children  How did Paul show courage?  Prayer – *Dear God, Help us when we are facing problems and difficulties to be courageous and determined. When people we know are struggling, may we be ready to encourage them and help them in any way we can. Amen* | | | | Read a bible story Depending on age of your class you could ask: I wonder… What did you like about the story? What do you think the story meant? What can we learn from the story? What will you remember about it? What does this story tell us about being human? What does it reveal about God? What if this happened today? | | | | Look at imagery from space. **When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? Psalm 8:3- 4** Read and listen to this psalm. Why do you think the psalmist wrote this – what was he feeling? How does it make you feel? How does God feel about those he has created?  Select an artwork on the following website https://www.philipmartinsummers.c om/paintings.html http://www.pjcrook.com/ https://www.arthobbs.com/ Show to the class and ask children to answer silently such as, ‘What does this tell you about God?’ or ‘What is this painting saying to you?’  Prayer - *Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray. Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen* | | *We gather together to celebrate our gifts and talents which are given to us from God and which are precious to him.*  What makes you different from the person sitting next to you? A lot of them are on the inside. If we have special gifts and abilities, we should recognise them for what they are— God's gifts to us. We cannot claim credit for them. There is no place for pride on our part. Instead we should encourage each other**. James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above**. I wonder what you have achieved this week? What have you learnt or made progress in? Be still and reflect on this. Let’s celebrate those children who have been successful this week by working hard and persevering. Celebrate the children’s talents and gifts by giving certificates and awards. | | |
| **WB 14/9/20** | | **9am - Y5/6 – worship led by Arch Deacon Richard**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  Hymn – ‘Be bold, be strong’  Retelling of the story of St George (Values for Life plan). The dragon can be seen to represent our fears and worries and with God’s help we can overcome them.  Prayer – *Dear Father God, Help us to know that you are close to us at all times, but especially when we are worried or afraid. Amen* | | | | **God cares for you so turn all your worries over to him Peter 1;5**  What can they remember of the story of St George? He overcame the dragon with God’s help as we can overcome our worries and fears.  Large outline of a dragon – children share their worries and fears  Y5/6 – individual dragon shapes | | | | Read a bible story Depending on age of your class you could ask: I wonder… What did you like about the story? What do you think the story meant? What can we learn from the story? What will you remember about it? What does this story tell us about being human? What does it reveal about God? What if this happened today? | | | | Ask children in groups to write out three prayers on whiteboards - one for a person they know, one for a person in the news, and one for something on a larger scale.  Hear prayers. Encourage the children to think about what they have heard, and to take away a "thought for the day"  *We go into the world to walk in God's light, to rejoice in God's love and to reflect God's glory.* | | *We gather together to celebrate our gifts and talents which are given to us from God and which are precious to him.*  **James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above**. I wonder what you have achieved this week? What have you learnt or made progress in? Be still and reflect on this. Let’s celebrate those children who have been successful this week by working hard and persevering. Celebrate the children’s talents and gifts by giving certificates and awards | |
| **WB 21/9/20** | | I wonder if you can think of a time in your life when you had to be filled with courage? What did this feel like? Read the story of David and Goliath from 1 Samuel Chapter 17. I wonder how David felt when he faced Goliath. In some ways, David felt no differently facing Goliath than he would have facing a lion or bear that was threatening his sheep…he believed that the same God who gave him courage to do this would be with him in facing Goliath. That was the secret of his courage.  *Prayer - Dear God, you know that I often feel frightened at the moment. Frightened about what will happen to me, to those I love and to our school community. But I know that you have been with me, I know that you will be with us today and I know that you will be with me in the future. Give me courage to do the big things, the little things and the difficult things that will make a difference to someone else today. Amen* | | | | **9am – Y2/3/4 – worship led by Arch Deacon Richard**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  I wonder if your worries and anxieties can sometimes feel like ‘giants’? It is always better to share your worries with someone else. It is ok to feel worried or anxious about these things. Many Christians believe that God promises to help, guide, strengthen and fill them with courage, just as he did David. I wonder if you need some courage to face your ‘giants’ like David did? When David said he would fight Goliath, his eldest brother was angry and said that David was conceited (“cheeky brat” Good News Translation). David then went to others in the army and each time he got the same answer. I wonder how this story might have ended if David had given up when his brother was angry with him?  Show a small stone… I wonder if it might be a reminder of the story of David and Goliath? I wonder if it might be a reminder that small things can make a big difference? I wonder if it might be a reminder that a little bit of courage and encouragement can go a long way? | | | | Read a bible story Depending on age of your class you could ask: I wonder… What did you like about the story? What do you think the story meant? What can we learn from the story? What will you remember about it? What does this story tell us about being human? What does it reveal about God? What if this happened today? | | | | Introduce photo of Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Explain he is a man who believed in non-violent ways to fight prejudice and injustice. He believed Christians should have the courage to follow Jesus’ example and by doing so, good will always triumph.  Be still and listen to this Prayer (written by Desmond Tutu) –  *Goodness is stronger than evil,*  *Love is stronger than hate,*  *Light is stronger than darkness,*  *Life is stronger than death,*  *Victory is ours through Jesus who loves us,*  *Amen*  Silently pray for those in the world who are being unfairly treated. | | *We gather together to celebrate our gifts and talents which are given to us from God and which are precious to him.*  **James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above**. I wonder what you have achieved this week? What have you learnt or made progress in? Be still and reflect on this. Let’s celebrate those children who have been successful this week by working hard and persevering. Celebrate the children’s talents and gifts by giving certificates and awards | |
| **WB 28/9/20** | **9am - Y5/6 – worship led by Arch Deacon Richard**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  Tell the children of Rosa Parks and of her courage displayed on her bus journey. Link this to recent Black Lives Matter protests –people standing up against injustice.  Prayer –*Dear Lord, give me the courage today and every day to stand up for what is right and to do my duty to help everyone in the wold to be treated fairly and equally. Amen* | | Y5/6 – Rosa Parks (as yesterday)  Story of Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King, Grace Darling, Nelson Mandela (class teacher’s choice as appropriate for their class).  Discuss how prejudice, intimidation or bullying has been challenged through courage of an individual. | | | | | Read a bible story Depending on age of your class you could ask: I wonder… What did you like about the story? What do you think the story meant? What can we learn from the story? What will you remember about it? What does this story tell us about being human? What does it reveal about God? What if this happened today? | | | |  | | | *We gather together to celebrate our gifts and talents which are given to us from God and which are precious to him.*  **James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above**. I wonder what you have achieved this week? What have you learnt or made progress in? Be still and reflect on this. Let’s celebrate those children who have been successful this week by working hard and persevering. Celebrate the children’s talents and gifts by giving certificates and awards | | |
| **WB 5/10/20** | Story of Daniel and the Lions. P.56 Lion story teller bible.  Link to modern times – people still sometimes get imprisoned for their beliefs.  Prayer – *Father God, Today we remember those who are not free to worship you openly. We pray for the people and organisations that work to keep the light of hope burning for those unjustly imprisoned. Give us courage to stand up for what is right. Amen.* | | **9am – Y2/3/4 – worship let by Rev Susan**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  Retell/recall story of Daniel (there are short animated versions on youtube). How would Daniel have been feeling at different points of the story?  Have the children ever felt afraid about going somewhere or doing something? It is at these times we need courage like Daniel.  Song – ‘Daniel is a praying man’ | | | | | Read a bible story Depending on age of your class you could ask: I wonder… What did you like about the story? What do you think the story meant? What can we learn from the story? What will you remember about it? What does this story tell us about being human? What does it reveal about God? What if this happened today? | | | | North Lakes foodbank Harvest presentation – range of resources for different age groups. | | | *We gather together to celebrate our gifts and talents which are given to us from God and which are precious to him.*  **James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above**. I wonder what you have achieved this week? What have you learnt or made progress in? Be still and reflect on this. Let’s celebrate those children who have been successful this week by working hard and persevering. Celebrate the children’s talents and gifts by giving certificates and awards | | |
| **WB 12/10/20** | **9am – Y2/3/4 – worship let by Rev Susan**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  Story of the Selfish Crocodile (Values for life resource).  Theme of taking your courage in both hands and when courageous individuals do this, life gets better for everyone.  Song – ‘Cross over the road my friend’  Prayer – *Dear God, Help us today to have the courage to show friendship to someone at school who is lonely. Amen* | | HARVEST PREPARATION  Each class to look at Harvest in an age appropriate way, could include foodbank, Fairtrade or World food Day (16 Oct).This could be pictures, poems or prayers. | | | | | Year 6 to lead a Harvest worship via zoom for the rest of the school. | | | | Year 5 Maple to lead a Harvest worship via zoom for the rest of the school. | | | *We gather together to celebrate our gifts and talents which are given to us from God and which are precious to him.*  **James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above**. I wonder what you have achieved this week? What have you learnt or made progress in? Be still and reflect on this. Let’s celebrate those children who have been successful this week by working hard and persevering. Celebrate the children’s talents and gifts by giving certificates and awards | | |
| **WB 19/10/20** | Year 5 Oak to lead a Harvest worship via zoom for the rest of the school. | | **9am – Y2/3/4 – worship let by Rev Susan**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  Year 4 to lead a Harvest worship via zoom for the rest of the school. | | | | | Year 3 to lead a Harvest worship via zoom for the rest of the school. | | | | Year 2 to lead a Harvest worship via zoom for the rest of the school. | | | *We gather together to celebrate our gifts and talents which are given to us from God and which are precious to him.*  **James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above**. I wonder what you have achieved this week? What have you learnt or made progress in? Be still and reflect on this. Let’s celebrate those children who have been successful this week by working hard and persevering. Celebrate the children’s talents and gifts by giving certificates and awards | | |