

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term in school we will be focussing on the value of PERSEVERANCE. We hope that as a family you will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value together.

Talk about PERSEVERANCE together...

Teachers often say that perseverance is something that many children find difficult. Very little that is really worthwhile in life can be achieved without perseverance. An athlete may train for years before they are ready to compete at the highest level. A musician must practice every day, sometimes for hours at a time, if they are to really master their instrument. In school learning to read and remembering times tables takes hours of practice.

- How would each family member rate themselves on a scale of 1 – 10 at perseverance?
- Can you give an example of something you have achieved by determined perseverance?
- Is there a skill that you think you could improve with perseverance?

In the Bible we are reminded that perseverance is important in life and that when we find keeping going hard Jesus is always there to support us in our efforts.

“Let us run with PERSEVERANCE the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus...” Hebrews 12 1-2

The Perseverance Family Challenge

Ask each member of the family to write (on identical pieces of paper) a challenge that will require perseverance to complete. Fold the paper 4 times and place it in a bag with the others. Invite each person to place their hand into the bag (whilst looking the other way) and pick out a challenge which they have one week to complete (think carefully about the challenge you set and if possible make it a worthwhile and useful thing to do).

The Home – School Challenge

Growing plants from seeds also needs perseverance. If seeds are going to grow into healthy plants they need daily care and attention. Today your child has brought home a sunflower seed in a pot. Their challenge is to grow the seed into a plant; we will then give a prize to the biggest sunflower in each class that is returned back to school at the end of this term. We will then plant the returned sunflowers in the school grounds.



Perseverance in the Natural World



Many birds show remarkable perseverance as they build their nests, piece by piece often in cold, wet and windy weather and at risk from predators. The long-tailed tit is just one example. Weighing just 9g, this little bird takes 3 weeks or more to build a nest. The oval shaped nest is made from moss, cobwebs and hair, covered on the outside with lichen and lined with up 2,000 tiny feathers.

The Hall of Fame

“Never give up” It’s probably one of the most well used phrases you’ll hear in life. But there’s a reason why—you never know when success really does lie around the next corner. Below is a list of famous people who definitely never gave up, Steve Jobs, David Beckham, J.K. Rowling, Walt Disney and Albert Einstein. All these people are now household names, but they didn’t become one so easily. Find out about their life stories with your children.

Watch these two you tube clips together and talk about perseverance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZIXWp6vFdE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSbdiANiwd4> you will not fail to be inspired!

Mrs Hall Needs You

Lastly, we are trying to transform our outdoor areas in school to help our children learn about nature. Over half term we started to tidy up the school grounds but there is still a lot of work to do. We are looking for volunteers to help in the school grounds with weeding and planting over the next 2 weeks. If you would be willing to help me for a couple of hours please could you catch me on the door or pop into the office and let Mrs Sharratt have your name.

Any help would be greatly appreciated!