**Hill Top CE Primary School and Nursery**

As you know, every half term we focus on a different Christian Value – these are chosen by our parents, governors and staff. We will shortly send out a questionnaire via a text message, so please use this letter to support you in making your choices as to which **three** Christian Values you feel are most relevant to your child as part of their education within a Church school environment. We will use your responses to help us plan both our curriculum and our daily acts of Collective Worship for the next two years. Please reply to the text message with your three choices. Thank you.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Christian Values** |  |
| **WISDOM** | Not the same about being clever! Wisdom is about understanding what’s really important and building your life (school) on those things. |
| **COMPASSION** | Is ‘putting yourself in someone else’s shoes’ when they are suffering. As we start to understand how they feel in our hearts, we will want to help them in some way. |
| **PEACE** | Is more than the absence of noise and fighting. Peace comes when everyone feels safe and secure and knows they are highly valued. Peace comes when time and space is made to sort out problems and hurts. |
| **JUSTICE** | Justice is about putting things right that have gone wrong. This might involve punishment, but is just as likely to involve finding ways to help others when they have gone wrong – just as God finds ways to help us when we have gone wrong. Justice shows concern for others, not just for ourselves. |
| **HUMILITY** | Thinking about the needs of others, recognising that we need others and we need God. This is linked with service, reverence and respect. Humility is about having a ‘down-to-earth’ view of ourselves in relation to God and others. |
| **CREATION &****CREATIVITY** | Remembering that the earth, and every life on it, is precious – a beautiful and beloved creation to be treasured and cared for, enjoyed, explored and celebrated. |
| **TRUTHFULNESS** | Be truthful. Be true to who you are (don’t pretend to be someone else). Search for and talk about truth and meaning in life (e.g. is it true that fame and money will make you happy?). Discover the amazing truth that we are loved beyond measure. |
| **COMMUNITY** | We are ‘all in this together’, all part of the same family. Each person is needed, valued and important to the whole. We see the best in each other – even when people are showing their worst sides! We share in each other’s joys and sufferings; we carry one another’s burdens; we support and depend on one another. |
| **SERVICE** | Helping others, even if they can’t (or won’t) do anything in return and even if it costs us (time, money, discomfort). Service others can bring joy and freedom. |
| **TRUST** | When you trust someone, you put yourself in their hands. You believe that they will do what is best for you; You believe that they will speak and act honestly and out of love. When others trust us, they do the same. |
| **FRIENDSHIP** | Is something that we offer to everyone, just as God offers it to us. Learning to be a good friend takes a life time. Good friends stick around in bad times as well as good. They are not afraid to tell us the truth, even if it hurts! |
| **REVERENCE & RESPECT** | Take time to stop and be amazed: by God, by the people and world around us. Recognise that we depend on all of them. And the way we respond to and interact with life, others, the created World and God will change. |
| **PERSEVERANCE & ENDURANCE** | Recognising that life is sometimes difficult, painful and full of obstacles – but choosing to keep going when it is, strengthened by friends, family and God’s unending love and faithfulness. |
| **COURAGE** | It takes courage to do and say what is right; to keep going in hard times; to try something new; to try our best in all we do. Knowing that we have friends and family to support us & that God is with us gives us courage. |
| **RESPONSIBILITY** | Life is a gift from God. It is our responsibility to use our talents, abilities and time in the best way we can, and for the good of others. |
| **THANKFULNESS** | Has always been the centre of list and worship of Christians as are songs of thankfulness and praise. Seeing the world as God’s creation underpins the way we approach everything in life, seeing it as a gift and not as a right. |
| **GENEROSITY** | Each of us has something to offer. We can give our money and our time to charity, be a friend to someone who is sick or lonely, so volunteer work, or be a peacemaker, teacher or minister. We may give unselfishly of our time to our spouse, children or parents. We may choose a service –oriented occupation, or we may just do our everyday jobs with integrity and respect for others. |
| **HOPE** | True hope is much more that the idea that things will get better, that the world will be safer or free from terror, greed, disease. Hope is a universal phenomenon and without it there is despair and disintegration. |
| **FORGIVNESS** | Fundamental to the character of God, we forgive because we are forgiven: it cannot be given or received unless it is asked for and the asking must be genuine and from the heart. Just saying sorry doesn’t mean everything is OK. |