

### What Friendship Means to Us

Friendship is about building positive relationships with others. It means being kind, trustworthy and supportive, and treating others the way we would like to be treated.

A simple definition of friendship is:

**Friendship means caring for others, being there for them and showing kindness in what we say and do.**

At our school, we encourage children to build strong, respectful friendships, to include others, and to understand the importance of kindness and empathy. Friendship can be shown in many ways—sharing, listening, helping others, inviting someone to join in, or resolving disagreements peacefully.

Developing strong friendships helps children feel safe, valued and confident, enabling them to thrive as part of a loving and supportive community.

### Books and Stories to help explore the value of Resilience:

**Bible stories:** Jesus Chooses his disciples, The Good Samaritan, Ruth and Naomi, The feeding of the 5000, Jesus washes his disciples' feet.

**Picture books:** *The Rainbow Fish* – Marcus Pfister, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* – Carol McCloud, *Lost and Found* – Oliver Jeffers, *A Friend Like You* – Frank Murphy, *Stick and Stone* – Beth Ferry

**A Christian Perspective** - Christians believe that friendship is a gift from God and a way of showing love, kindness and care to others. The Bible teaches that we are called to love one another, just as Jesus loves us. True friendship reflects God's love—it is patient, forgiving, supportive and kind.

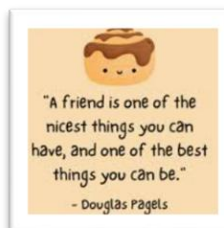
Jesus showed the importance of friendship throughout his life. He spent time with his friends, listened to them, helped them and encouraged them. He reminds us that friendship is about being there for others, especially in times of need.

Christians believe that through friendship, communities become stronger and more caring. By showing kindness, loyalty and understanding, we can help one another to flourish and "let our light shine".



### Help your child to show friendship at home by:

- Encouraging kind and respectful language
- Talking about how to be a good friend
- Supporting them to include others and be welcoming
- Modelling forgiveness and understanding
- Praising acts of kindness and thoughtfulness



### We are exploring Friendship in school by:

- Developing the value through collective worship
- Encouraging inclusive play and positive relationships
- Teaching children how to resolve conflict kindly and respectfully
- Celebrating acts of kindness, friendship and teamwork
- Providing opportunities for collaboration and peer support