Nacton C of E Primary School
FRIENDSHIP – Summer term 2024

Agreed definition:
Christians believe that Jesus is our friend. Feeling comfortable in each other's company, being able to share joys and sorrows are all features of friendship and these are things of immense value. True friendship enables each person to grow and ensures that the unique individuality of each person is recognised. All this echoes the value placed by God on the preciousness of each person. Hymns like 'What a friend we have in Jesus' **point to a relationship that is at the heart of Christian believing**. Knowing that God is our friend is to recover something of the acceptance and close companionship that people of all ages need and crave.

Questions:
How do we restore a broken friendship? Am I a good friend? What does it mean to be a good friend? Is our school a friendly school? How do we support each other?

Key Bible Verse:

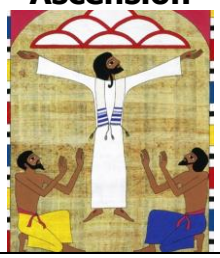
A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17

Key Bible Character:
Ruth insisted on returning with Naomi to her home country of Israel. Our friends are people who stick with us in good times and in bad times, they are self-giving just like Jesus was.



Christian Festivals this half term

Ascension



9th May
Ascension padlet

Pentecost



19th May
Pentecost

High Quality Collective Worship
INSPIRING INVITATIONAL INCLUSIVE

Worship leaders need to:

Gather	• As children enter the hall, they sing or listen to music. • The start of worship is signified through the reading of the gathering by pupils. • The school candles are lit.
Engage	• Each worship session has a clear message. • We talk about Jesus, his example and other Bible stories. • We ensure children are involved in delivering Collective Worship
Respond	• At the beginning of this time, we say 'time to think OR time to pray' • We ask children to all be quiet and still. • We have a prayer in every assembly. We begin by inviting everyone to join in

	with amen if they want to. We offer the choice of saying their own prayer. Or just time to think or reflect. • We sing inclusive songs together. Children are invited to sing strongly confessional songs during Easter and Christmas.
Send	• The Collective Worship team close worship • Candles are extinguished. If real candles being used, we watch the smoke and think about God's love spreading out across the world. • After the sending, the last thing children hear as they leave the space is something to think about linked to the content of the worship.

Expectations of Staff

All staff are invited to attend daily collective worship as an important part of their own wellbeing and spiritual growth, allowing time to learn and celebrate, or just to be still and reflect. Teachers are expected to attend every act of Collective Worship. Teaching Assistants attend on Monday and Friday at a minimum.

Autumn Term Weekly Collective Worship and Worship Leaders

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Values gathering GT	Class gathering	Singing	Keystage	Celebration
Values linked to the teachings of Jesus and the Bible	Using picture news	Inclusive songs, reflections and prayers	Themes relevant to school life and the seasons of the church	Celebrating together our successes and achievements

Ideas for prayers: Prayers for church schools (padlet.org)

Summer term rota

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
15.04	Paralysed man and his friends GT	Class Picture News	Singing GT	Key Stage click here	Celebration
22.04	Daniel GT	Class Picture News	Singing LP	Key Stage click here	Celebration
29.04	Ruth and Naomi GT	Class Picture News	Singing GT	Key Stage click here	Celebration
06.05	BH	Class Picture News	Singing LP	Key Stage Ascension click here	Celebration
13.05	Jesus' special friends GT	Class Picture News	Singing GT	Key Stage click here	Celebration
20.05	Pentecost GT	Class Picture News	Singing LP	Key Stage click here	Celebration

Half Term

Bible stories for Mondays -

15.04	Jesus heals a paralysed man The Lion Storybook Bible -Down through the roof p.94 The lame man would not have been healed without the help of his friends, who did all they could for him.
22.04	Daniel's friends and the fiery furnace The Lion Storybook Bible -The Men who liked to say no p.74 Daniel's friends stood up for what they believed was right, and faced a fiery consequence. The importance of sticking together in our friendships even when it isn't easy.
29.04	Ruth and Naomi The Lion Storybook Bible -Ruth finds a new home p. 48 Ruth's late husband was Naomi's son. While they were connected by a marriage relationship, they were also dear friends. Ruth insisted on returning with Naomi to her home country of Israel. Though Ruth had lost her husband to death, she did not want to lose her friend. They returned to Israel together grieving deeply. Ruth was there for Naomi in a very difficult situation.
06.05	Jesus calls the first disciples The Lion Storybook Bible -Jesus' special friends p.92 Jesus needed helpers. He laughed and joked with them and they became his friends. He could have called them his servants but he didn't. He called them friends. Jesus had a strong friendship with all the disciples. Each one had their own relationship with him. He even later called Simon Peter 'his rock.' We all need other people, not just to help us, but to provide us with company, friendship and guidance.
13.05	Elijah and Elisha To help him carry out his work, God sent Elijah a friend and eventual successor, the younger Elisha. Elisha was absolutely devoted to his friend, to his mentor, because he knew the older man would make an excellent guide. It is important to choose friends who are wise and holy and passionate about what they do—after all, we tend to become like our peers.