PEACE

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value PEACE. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK ABOUT PEACE TOGETHER...

In school, children will have been learning about different kinds of **peace** including **peace** that comes when it is quiet, the things that make for **peace** of mind and the qualities of a **peacemaker**. In this issue of Home School Values, we will be focussing on the last of these.

All families have disagreements and arguments from time to time.

- What are the things that cause members of your family to fall out?
- Are there particular times of the day that arguments happen?
- How do each of you feel inside at these times?

THINK TOGETHER ABOUT WORDS OF WISDOM

"You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist"

Golda Meir/Indira Gandhi

READ TOGETHER...

David Tries To Make Peace With King Saul

King Saul knew that he needed to keep an eye on young David. He had killed the giant, Goliath, and now people were saying that David should be king. David was a gifted musician and so Saul asked him to come and live in his palace and play soothing music to him when he was in a rage.

David became more and more popular and a good friend of Saul's own son Jonathan. Saul became more and more angry and jealous. Finally one day, as he watched David **peacefully** playing his harp Saul's fury erupted and he threw a spear at David narrowly missing him. David knew he must escape from Saul's palace and with Jonathan's help, he fled into the desert. Before long, hundreds of followers joined David. Saul was furious and, with 3000 of his finest soldiers, set out to hunt David down and kill him.

One day Saul and his men stopped by a huge cave. Saul went into the cave alone or so he thought! In fact, David and his friends had been resting in another part of the cave and when they saw Saul, David's men whispered, "This is your chance David. God has delivered Saul into your hands to deal with as you please. Let's kill him at once." David ordered his men to stay back while he crept forward and taking his knife from his belt, instead of killing Saul he simply cut off a corner of the king's cloak.

As Saul left the cave, David called after him, "My King, why do you think that I want to harm you and cause a rebellion? Look, here is a piece of your cloak! I could have killed you but I wish for only **peace** between us."

Saul was overcome with sadness for what he had done. "May the Lord reward you richly for the way you have treated me today. I know now that one day David you will indeed be king."

Bible story based on 1 samuel 24

QUIZ

Spot the difference

Can you spot the eight differences?





FASCINATING FACTS



The Nobel Peace Prize

Alfred Nobel was a 19th century Swedish inventor and engineer. He invented dynamite, which was used to destroy many things! Perhaps because of this, in his will, Nobel left money and instructions to award five special prizes each year. He said that one of these, the Nobel **Peace** Prize, should be given to a person, or group of people, who had done the most or best work to promote **peace** between nations.

- The Nobel **Peace** Prize is presented in Oslo on 10th December each year by the King of Norway
- The winner is given a diploma, a medal and over 1 million US dollars to carry on their work

FAMILY FOCUS

Becoming Peacemakers

'Peer Mediation' is a scheme often used in schools to train teams of children who volunteer to help settle disputes in the playground. Some of the guidelines in the training include the following strategies:

- Listen carefully to both sides
- No interrupting
- No accusations
- List problems to be sorted out and then work through them

How do you resolve disagreements in your household? List one 'top tip' from every member of the family.





HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Create an Acrostic for the word **Peacemaker**

A good **peacemaker** is.....

P repared to listen

E ven-handed with everyone

A lways fair

HALL OF FAME

Rigoberta Menchu



Very few people had heard of Rigoberta Menchu when it was announced that she had won the Nobel **Peace** Prize in 1992. However, Rigoberta was one of the bravest women ever to have been awarded this prestigious prize. She was born in 1959 into a Mayan Indian family who lived and worked in Guatemala. The Mayan people were treated cruelly by the government and the army in Guatemala. The Menchu family were Christians and they believed it was their duty to fight against such injustice. The family learnt Spanish from the local priests so they could stand up for the rights of their people. One by one the members of the family were killed in the most dreadful way by the government soldiers, first Rigoberta's 16 year old brother, then her father because he was a union leader and then finally her mother. Rigoberta knew she would be next, so she escaped to Mexico where she wrote her life story and made a film about the bad things happening in Guatemala. Rigoberta continues to this day to stand up against injustice and is now an Ambassador for the United Nations.

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