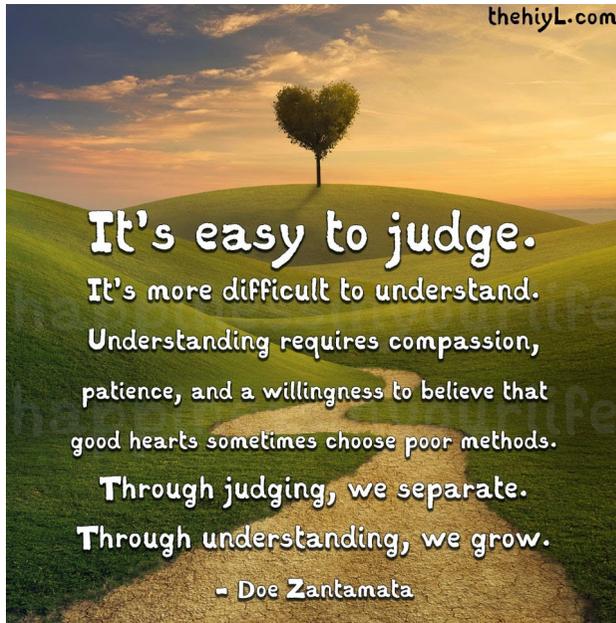


# Family Values

Our Christian Value this half-term is...

## Understanding



What does the Bible teach us about understanding?

There were once two men, and each needed to build a house.

The first man was foolish, and chose to build on sandy soil where it was easy to access and easy to dig the foundations. In a few short weeks he was almost finished.

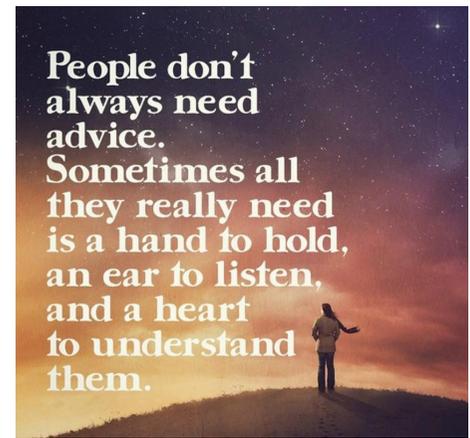
The second man was wise, and chose to build his house on a rocky hill, where it was very hard to access and to dig the foundation. He spent many months building his house.

As time passed a huge storm broke upon the houses of these men. After much rain, a flood swept through the valley and the man's house that was built on the sand was swept away. But the second man who had built on the rocky hill was safe. No matter how hard it rained or how fierce the floods were his house remained solid and immovable.

Reflection: What is the foundation of our life? Are we like the wise man, are our lives built on good foundations ?

### People who are good at understanding others:

- \* **Pick up emotional clues**, often from body language, tone of voice and other non-verbal elements of communication.
- \* **Listen well to what people are saying**, actively checking their understanding. When people talk, listen completely. Most people do not listen with the intent to understand; they listen with the intent to reply.
- \* **Show sensitivity towards others**, and understand their perspectives. They are careful not to give offence by saying or doing the wrong thing, and are aware that not everyone has the same point of view.
- \* **Help other people appropriately**, based on their understanding of their needs and emotions.



### Family Values Activity

Decorate a pebble with your message to spread Understanding across our school community.

We will place the stones in a pile to give a strong message together. Remember 10 House Points for your work.



### I wanted to change the world

When I was a young man, I wanted to change the world.

I found it was difficult to change the world, so I tried to change my nation.

When I found I couldn't change the nation, I began to focus on my town. I couldn't change the town and as an older man, I tried to change my family.

Now, as an old man, I realize the only thing I can change is myself, and suddenly I realize that if long ago I had changed myself, I could have made an impact on my family. My family and I could have made an impact on our town. Their impact could have changed the nation and I could indeed have changed the world.

Author: unknown monk around 1100 AD

