


Date: Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Value: Courage	Leader: JWS
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Key message that the children need to take away
<b>Values:</b> Courage <b>Theme:</b> Encouraging others

Gathering	<p>Music on entry. Children enter quietly</p> <p>Class children to bring up to the worship table and say together: Bible – God the Father Cross – God the Son Candle – God the Holy Spirit</p> <p>Candle is lit on the worship table All: Come to us Father, as we gather here today;     Be with us Jesus, in our worship     Stay with us Holy Spirit, now and always, Amen.</p>	<p>Image on display as children enter:</p>  <p>'Be strong and courageous: do not be frightened or dismayed for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1.9</p>
Engaging	<p>'Be strong and courageous: do not be frightened or dismayed for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1.9</p> <p>The word 'courage' can be found in two other words: Encourage Discourage</p> <p>Ask the children for their definitions of these words.</p> <p>Which of these words is a positive word and which is negative?</p> <p>Ask the children for examples of times when they have been encouraged by someone else.</p> <p>The phrases I am going to read are ones we often hear. As you listen to them, put your thumbs up if you find them encouraging or thumbs down if you think they are discouraging.</p>	

- You won't be able to do that.
- Well done!
- What a fantastic idea.
- That was brilliant!
- No, you're too young.
- That's too hard for you, you'd better give up.

## Learning

Today's story is about a girl called Sophie, but it could be about any of us.

*Hold up a 5 pointed bright golden star, at the marked numbers 1-5 in the following text. Take off the points from the star as you read the story. At the end they will need to be reattached.*

### STORY SOPHIE'S MORNING

Sophie woke up feeling great. In fact she was feeling like a star, bright, shiny and super confident. It was Friday, she was going to her friend's house after school for a sleepover and she'd finished her history homework project last night and even though she said it herself, it was looking good. Mrs Jones was bound to give her an excellent for it.

"Sophie, will you get a move on, you're going to miss your bus!" Mum bellowed up the stairs.

"All right, all right," Sophie shouted back. What was all the fuss about? She had plenty of time.

"Sophie, come on!" shouted Mum.

For goodness sake, why did Mum always shout in the mornings? Sophie could feel herself getting angrier, why didn't Mum understand that if she ate her toast walking to the bus stop she had plenty of time.

"Sit down to eat that toast young lady," Mum pointed at the kitchen table

"I can eat on my way Mum," Sophie snapped back

"SIT DOWN!" Mum used that voice that you just knew not to argue with. Sophie sat down thumping her bag down on the floor and scraping the chair on the floor. **1**

Finally she rammed the last bit of toast in her mouth and rushed out before her Mum could delay her again, as she rushed round the corner, she saw.....

the bus, pulling away from the bus stop. **2**

Oh no! She watched as some of the Year 6 boys waved and smiled from the back seat. **3**

There was nothing else for it she'd have to walk otherwise she'd be really late. Furiously, Sophie set off half walking, half running all the way to school. Puffing and panting she arrived at the gates just as the bell went- made it!

Rushing into the classroom she heard Mrs Jones say "Put your history projects on the front desk please and I hope everyone has remembered that today was the deadline, I don't want to spend my break time inside with anyone who has forgotten."

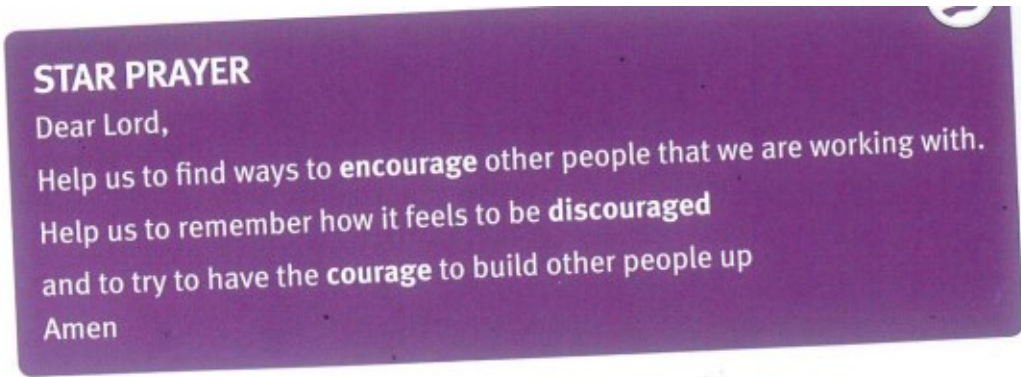
Sophie opened her bag and felt herself going hot and then cold, her history project, where was it? It had to be here somewhere. Slowly she stopped searching as she remembered the last bit of colouring she'd been doing on her desk at home last night. Oh no, she'd left in such a rush this morning..... **4**


After break time Sophie's friend Katy rushed up to her "Don't worry, we'll play the same game at dinner play and you can join in on my team."

"Thanks Katy," Sophie smiled back at her, I can't wait to get outside now, I just need to get through Maths!"

As the bell went for the end of the morning's lessons, Katy glanced up towards the window and watched in disbelief as the rain began to beat against the window panes.

"Indoor play I'm afraid." sighed Mrs Jones in a weary voice. **5**

Reflecting	<p>Sometimes it can only take a morning like Sophie's to leave us feeling that everyone is against us and everything is going wrong. Sophie didn't feel like a star anymore.</p> <p>These are the times when our friends need to build us up and <b>encourage</b> us.</p> <p>If you were Sophie's friend, how would you cheer her up after all that had happened?</p> <p><i>As you take the children's suggestions (five) stick the points back on the star to make it look as good as new.</i></p>
Responding	 <p><b>STAR PRAYER</b></p> <p>Dear Lord,</p> <p>Help us to find ways to <b>encourage</b> other people that we are working with.</p> <p>Help us to remember how it feels to be <b>discouraged</b></p> <p>and to try to have the <b>courage</b> to build other people up</p> <p>Amen</p>
Sending Out	<p>Sending out prayer at the extinguishing of the candle</p> <p>Pupil: Known by Jesus and loved by Jesus, we go on our way,</p> <p>All: Carrying his love inside us through the day. Amen</p> <p><b>SHILL:</b> Pupil/Leader: For the body is not one member but many.</p> <p>All: So today we will grow together and learn together.</p>

	Music is played
Hymn	Cross over the road Come and Praise No. 70
Class follow-up	<p>'Be strong and courageous: do not be frightened or dismayed for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1.9</p>  <p>Create a "Ways to be encouraging" list</p> <p>Has anyone encouraged you? What did they do/say and how did it make you feel?</p>

