

Weekly Theme

W/C 14th November 2016



“Don’t be afraid of hard work”

St Pauls Letter to the Thessalonians 3:7-12

For you yourselves know how you should follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, or did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, labouring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat."

We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat.

We belong to an outstanding college community. To be an outstanding community requires a lot of hard work, not just from the Head Teacher and all the staff and Governors and Parents, but from all the students as well, in fact everyone who is involved in the life of our college community.

When we eventually we get a job, the people who will manage us will certainly expect us to work hard to earn our pay.

Jesus also expects us to work hard as well! In the Bible St Paul tells the Christians of Thessalonica, "We order you to go on working quietly." Idleness is a sin because it's unfair, making life more difficult for others and being unprepared to do our fair share. God expects us to work hard and so help to improve the quality of life for everyone.

Prayer

Father, Creator of the universe, you made everything out of nothing.
Help us in our daily work to do our best and develop into the caring people that you want us to be.

Amen

Form Tutor

The aim of this week's theme:

Ask the students to think about their goals for the future, what do they want to do when they leave college perhaps university or maybe a job. To get there they have to put things in place now, what they achieve in the future depends upon how hard that they work now. As well as over their remaining time at SJP.

In St Paul's letter to the Thessalonian's he tells us that God expects us to work hard, but not just for ourselves only, we have to work hard to ensure that everyone achieves a "Fullness of life".

But what are the kind of things we have to "Work hard at" to ensure that this happens? How can we encourage those who don't want to work hard to change their mind?

Day One

Tutor:

Read Scripture

Student Prayer:

Loving Father, help me to know what direction my life should take, May in all that I do, may I always be led by your example.

Amen.

St John Plessington
Pray for us

Day 2

Think about: The society in which we live.

Tutor:

Today we remember those in our society who have no hope for the future? Think what it must be like not to have any hope. What kind of situations can people find themselves in that robs them of hope for the future?

Student prayer

Dear Lord, help us build society in which each person can have hope for the future.

Amen

St John Plessington

Pray for us

Day 3

Think about: The world in which we live.

Tutor:

Who are the people in our world today that work hard for the for the future of our planet? Can you name them and say why you think they work hard?.

Student Prayer

Dear Lord, for all in our world who bring us hope, we thank you.

Amen .

St John Plessington

Pray for us

Day Four

Think about our college community

Tutor

Education is a gift that we often take for granted and all too often we moan about the amount of work we are expected to do. But for millions of children in our world today have no hope of receiving any access to education at all and as a result have no hope for their future. Think about what it must be like not to be educated?

Today let's take a moment to appreciate those who make our college family such an outstanding one.

Student Prayer

God our loving Father, thank you for our college family, thank you in particular for those who guide and support us and give us hope.

Amen.

St John Plessington
Pray for us.

Day Five

Think about our families

Tutor

Today in the month of November we remember the members of our families who have died. Perhaps we can name them and say what kind of things that they did to work hard for their families and how they inspire us still today?

Student Prayer

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace.

Amen.

St John Plessington
Pray for us

Other Prayers you may wish to use this week

Christ,
Take our words,
Our world
Our weapons
Our work
And transform them in your image.

Amen

Our Lord Jesus Christ said to his disciples, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you." (*Jn 14:27*) Give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts.

Merciful God, accept our prayers. You are our only strength, refuge and hope. In the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Loving Father
Today we pray for hope.
We need hope for a better future.
We need hope for a better life.
We need hope for love and kindness.

Amen

Loving Lord, you always stand beside me. You provide me with a future full of your love, blessings, and guidance. I know that, no matter how bad things get, you will always be by my side. I know I may not see you. I know I may not feel you, but I thank You for giving us Your Word that tells us you are here.

Amen

