

Meriden Values

Even-Tempered

If we're feeling angry or upset, we try to pause for a moment to think about what we're going to say. Once we've said something mean, it's very hard to take those words back.

"Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."
James 1:19



Contentment

Even when things don't work out how we'd like them to, we try and stay happy with the situation that we're in, knowing that God is in control of everything that happens to us.

"I have learned in whatever situation to be content."
Philippians 4:11



Forgiveness

When someone does something to upset us, we take the time to forgive them. This is a true forgiveness from the heart, where we move on and forget what they have done to us. This is showing God's love- agape.

"Even if someone wrongs you seven times, if they say sorry you must forgive them."
Luke 17:4

Love

The purpose of Jesus on this earth was to show God's love to the whole of the earth. We try to show the love that Jesus showed us. The Greek word for this in the Bible is *agape*. This is an unconditional love that we show to everyone.

"Love each other as I have loved you."
John 15:12



Friends, Faith and Lifelong Learning



Now you're dressed in a new wardrobe. Every item of your new way of life is custom-made by the Creator, with his label on it. So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: **compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, discipline.** Be **even-tempered, content** with second place, quick to **forgive** an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear **love**. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

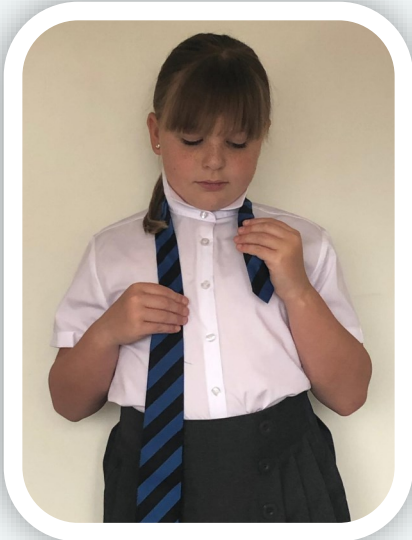
Colossians 3:10;12-14 MSG

What does it mean to be dressed in God's wardrobe?

Learning something new can be tricky! Whether learning to ride a bike, saying your alphabet or tying your school tie, it can feel difficult, uncomfortable and challenging at first. We have to work hard and be resilient for these tasks to become more natural and 'second-nature.'

The Apostle Paul encourages us to 'put on' a new set of clothes and, much like learning a new skill, these can feel awkward and unnatural at first. For example, forgiving someone who has hurt us can feel the very opposite of natural; it is far easier to hold a grudge! However with practise in community with others, these values can become part of our everyday wardrobe.

Our hope at Meriden CE Primary, is that all of us (including the grown ups!) would learn what it means to be dressed in God's wardrobe for us.



Matthew 9:36

Compassion

Compassion is when we understand how other people feel. We make sure that we treat them in a way that we would like to be treated. If we see someone who needs help, we make sure that we help them.

"When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were lost, like sheep without a shepherd."

Kindness

We show kindness to others by always trying to put them first- even when it's hard for us! We try and find ways to put other people before ourselves and think of their needs most of all.

"Love your neighbour as yourself."
Mark 12:31

Humility

We try not to have a big opinion of ourselves (even when we are good at something!). We try to appreciate the talents of other people and use our skills to help them.

"Be humble and God will lift you up."
James 4:10



Gentleness

Gentleness can be defined as 'strength under control.' Kind hands, feet and words help us to show gentleness towards other people, responding with self-control even when it is hard to do so! The ways that we interact with other people can make a big difference to their lives .

"Be completely humble and gentle."
Ephesians 2:4



Discipline

We make sure that we are always making the right choices and take responsibility for our actions. We know that the more we practice making the right choices, the easier it will become to be fully in control of ourselves.

"The wisdom of God produces a harvest of good deeds."

