

‘Aspire, believe and flourish within our nurturing community’

Hebrews 10:24 ‘Spur one another on toward love and good deeds’

Hebrews 10:24-25a (NIV), *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another.*

In these two verses we are directed to hold on to the hope we have in Christ in four ways:

1. **Spur one another on toward love.** The Greek word behind *spur* is the word “to provoke,” “to stir up.” In a positive context (like it is used here) it means to entice or motivate. As a school we have aspiration for each to flourish as whole people. We also aim to entice one another towards love. Love is the core, the DNA of the Christian life as is made clear in the Great Commandment, *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. Love your neighbour as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments* (Matthew 22:37-40, NIV).
2. **Spur one another on to good deeds.** As a school we encourage each other to be courageous advocates – changing the world for the better. If we are loving it is going to be shown in doing good to and for one another, our wider community and the planet. That is how love works. The feeling of love in the heart motivates our will to act in accordance with it. To spur one another on toward love is to spur one another on toward good deeds. Jesus teaching set an example of how we should live.
3. **Continuing to meet together.** As a school we can’t spur one another on toward love and good deeds unless we work together as a nurturing community. Spurring, enticing, and motivating requires relationship, it requires commitment, it requires being together.
4. **Encourage one another.** It doesn’t take long to realise that loving one another, doing good to and for one another, and being an effective community requires encouragement. Life’s trials, and our own shortcomings make it often seem like it is swimming against the current to keep up this work. We need to constantly be reminded of Jesus’ example and of His promises, and the loving support of one another to pick us up when we falter or fall so that we can get back up and get back at it without being discouraged.

Our school values support our vision

- **Friendship** through developing bonds across the school community as we work and play and care for each other.
John 15:13 The greatest love is shown when a person lays down his life for his **friends**.
- **Compassion** through all our interactions with each other.
Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.
- **Forgiveness** because we understand that we all make mistakes.
Matthew 18:22 “How often should I **forgive** someone who sins against me? Seven times?” “No!” Jesus replied, “seventy times seven!”
- **Respect** by valuing every individual for their uniqueness celebrating similarities and differences and all that they bring to our school community.
1 Peter 2:16 Show **respect** for everyone.
 - **Truthfulness** by taking ownership of our actions, respecting others and seeking to repair any wrongs we have made.
Ephesians 4:25 Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbour, for we are members one of another.