Theme: Acts Of Kindness

When I was very young, neither me nor my siblings were particular fans of vanilla ice cream. We would always opt for strawberry or chocolate flavoured ice cream (but never mint-choc chip! … you have to draw a line somewhere!) because the taste and flavour was, in our opinion, better. We were, at that age, of the mindset that vanilla ice-cream was what you got if you took all the chocolate out of chocolate flavoured ice cream!. However, now that I'm older and wiser, I have come to learn that vanilla ice-cream has a flavour all of its own.

The same is with kindness. Kindness is not just 'not being rude' or 'not saying something hurtful'. Kindness is actually something in and of itself. It is compassion. It is gentleness. It is love. I could stay in bed all day and not be rude or unpleasant, but it would not make me kind or loving. I actually have to do something.

So, this week we are asking all those in our school community to think about what they could do … what act of kindness could they do that expects nothing in return.

[Mr Doust]

Scripture:

The people asked John, “What should we do?”
John answered, “If you have two shirts, share with the person who does not have one. If you have food, share that too.”
Even tax collectors came to John to be baptized. They said to John, “Teacher, what should we do?”
John said to them, “Don’t take more taxes from people than you have been ordered to take.”
The soldiers asked John, “What about us? What should we do?”
John said to them, “Don’t force people to give you money. Don’t lie about them. Be satisfied with the pay you get.”
All the people were hoping for the Christ to come, and they wondered about John. They thought, “Maybe he is the Christ.”

John answered everyone, “I baptize you with water, but there is one coming later who can do more than I can. I am not good enough to untie his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. He will come ready to clean the grain. He will separate the good grain from the chaff. He will put the good part of the grain into his barn. Then he will burn the chaff with a fire that cannot be put out.” And John continued to preach the Good News, saying many other things to encourage the people.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, We pray on this day that we can follow in Your footsteps and be loving and kind to our peers. Give us the strength and wisdom to think about Your life and your actions… “What Would Jesus Do?” Help us to show others, the love and kindness that You share with us each and every day. Amen.