

This term we will be focussing in school on the value WISDOM. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK ABOUT WISDOM TOGETHER...

Wisdom is different from just being clever. Often wise people have lots of experience and can give good advice to help us make difficult decisions. Some people pray because they believe that God can help them to live their lives **wisely**.

Talk together about:

- Making **wise** choices
- The consequences of our words and actions
- Learning **wisdom** from others – including children from parents and parents from children
- Learning from our mistakes and becoming **wiser** through them



READ TOGETHER...

The wise and foolish builders

Jesus told a story about two men. The first man was **wise** and decided to build his house on a rock. This house was hard to build. He had to stand on the rock and dig foundations deep down into that hard rock to make his house strong. He worked for many, many days before his new house was finished. It was a long time before he and his family could move in.

The other man built his house on the sand. This house was easy to build. The sand was soft, easy to stand on, and easy to dig into. He built his house very quickly and soon his family was living happily in their new house.

But then, one day it started to rain. It didn't rain gently. It didn't rain for just a few minutes. It poured. The wind blew and blew. All round new streams began to flow, making their own tracks across the rock and sands. The rainwater washed around the house on the rock and ran down the roads. But the house stood firm, it didn't move, and everyone inside was safe.

The family in the house on the sand looked out at the raging storm. Their house was creaking, it was moving. The water gushed all around. And then crash! As the sands shifted the house tumbled to the ground.

Jesus said, "The man who built his house on rock is like someone who listens to my **wise** teaching and builds their life upon it. When storms and troubles come, they will stand firm."

Bible story based on Matthew 7:24-27

THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"It's no good shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted."

Anon

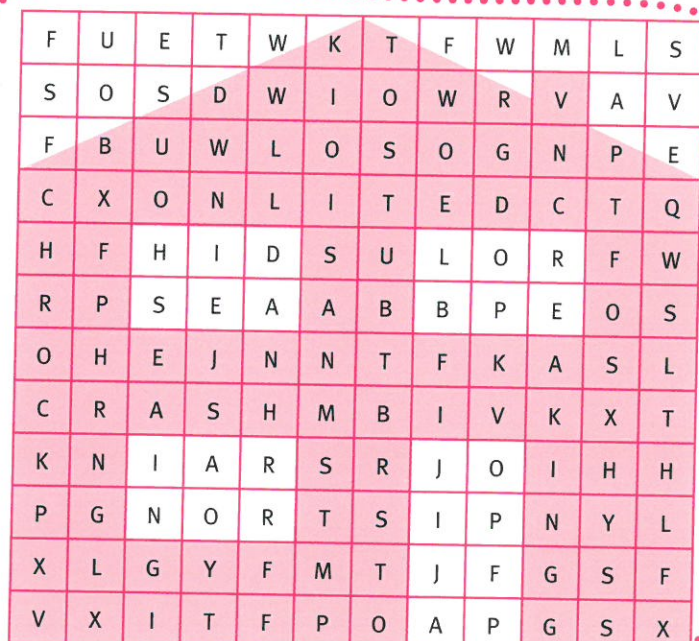
This is a well-known proverb. Can you think of a time when you did the right thing but too late?



QUIZ Wordsearch

Can you find the words from the story?

- | | | |
|--------|-------------|----------|
| WISE | HOUSE | FOOLISH |
| STORM | RAIN | BUILD |
| STRONG | FIRM | CRASH |
| ROCK | SOFT | CREAKING |
| SAND | FOUNDATIONS | |





FAMILY FOCUS

Building a Wall of Wisdom

Everyone has a favourite proverb or wise saying. Talk to family members about proverbs that they think give **wise** advice. Ask them to explain the meaning of the proverb and add it to a 'wall of **wisdom**'.

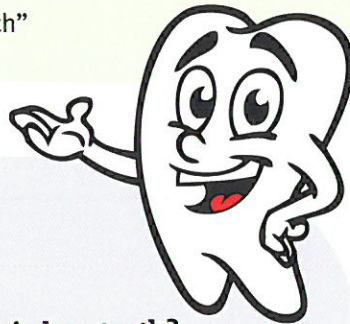
Build your wall by writing each proverb on a 'brick' cut out of paper. Blu-tack the bricks on to a wall.

You can find lots of proverbs on www.phrases.org.uk



To start you off here three well-known proverbs:

- "A chain is only as strong as the weakest link"
- "Many hands make light work"
- "Don't count your chickens before they hatch"



HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

A Brick for the Wall

Make a shoe box 'brick'. Cover the box with paper and write your favourite proverb on the brick. Then, either in a cartoon drawing or in words (hand written or typed on the computer and printed), tell a story using your proverb as the moral. Finish with the words:

So this proves the proverb, ".....".

(For example, So this proves the proverb "Don't count your chickens before they hatch".)

Decorate the brick so it looks fantastic and take it to school to help build a Wall of **Wisdom**.



HALL OF FAME

Confucius

Confucius was an ancient Chinese teacher. He lived more than 2500 years ago but such was his **wisdom** and understanding that his teaching is still remembered today.

Confucius wanted everyone to see the importance of making **wise** and thoughtful choices.

One of his sayings is...

"Everything in creation has a beauty of its own but not everyone is able to see it."



FASCINATING FACTS

Why are some teeth called wisdom teeth?

- Your first teeth are called milk teeth. Can your Mum tell you when you cut your first milk tooth?
- Milk teeth normally fall out while you are in primary school and are replaced by adult teeth, which have to last for the rest of your life! Can you remember when your first milk tooth came out?
- Wisdom** teeth grow much later than adult teeth in most people and are bigger, flatter teeth. Can one of the adults in the family remember when they grew their first **wisdom** tooth?

Over the centuries and in different parts of the world '**wisdom** teeth' have been known by many names:

- In Ancient Greece they were *sophronisteres*, thoughtful teeth.
- Later in Roman times they were given the name *dentes sapientiae*, teeth of wisdom.
- The name **wisdom** teeth was adopted in Britain in Victorian times.
- In Arabic speaking countries, the teeth are called *Ders-al-a'qel*, or teeth of the mind.
- In Spain they are referred to as *muela de juicio*, or teeth of judgment, because they grow as young people leave school and become **wiser** and have more responsibility.