



<p>Weeks- 1/9/21-24/9/21</p>	<p>Core Value Focus- Empathy</p>
<p>Scripture Link “This is my commandment, Love one another as I have loved you” John 12:12</p>	<p>Message from the Principal As we come together for the first time as a brand new school community this September, we take time to focus on our Christian vision and values. The need for empathy immediately springs to mind as we consider our new cohort of Y7 students who, because of the pandemic, have been unable to take part in the usual transition activities. Also of course, our outgoing Y11s who have just celebrated their GCSE results before moving on to the next step in their lives. We are very proud of the way our staff and students come together to form a family, and I have no doubt that all our Y7s will be embraced as part of that loving family. Sending all our families positive and caring thoughts as this new school year begins.</p>
<p>Message from the Chaplain Empathy is so important! school life is based on empathy. Between teachers and students and in the middle of every friendship empathy is what holds our school community together. Caring about other people is at the heart of QEA. Jesus whole life was about empathy. He spent time with people, he took time out to eat with them, to visit them, to teach and to heal. He showed limitless empathy without boundaries to all people. A standard we can never meet but always be inspired and empowered by. As we consider Jesus life it is a great encouragement to keep going with empathy. To never give up on each other. Even in Jesus death we see empathy. Christians believe that Jesus didn’t just set an example of empathy but that he achieved something through his life and death. In God’s great love for us Jesus gave himself as a sacrifice for the sins of mankind because he saw our need for forgiveness. He lived among us and felt our challenges, our pain and our difficulties but he didn’t just feel empathy he <i>did</i> empathy. Jesus commands us to love one another but not in our own strength or in our own way. He commanded us to show an active sacrificial love for one another. That takes effort! That takes empathy.</p>	<p>Discussion points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why is empathy important in school? How has someone shown empathy to you? Have you ever needed empathy? Did you get it? How did Jesus show empathy in his life? How did he show it through his death? Why would Jesus give his life for others? Name 3 ways you can develop your empathy

A prayer for empathy

Loving God you ask us to love as you loved us

Thank you for Jesus who walked among us who suffered with us and for us

Help us to find and help those who are struggling

Help us to find steps that show love in our school community

May you fill our hearts with love and empathy even when we find it a challenge

Because you gave your all for us

All: God of Comfort, comfort us that we may comfort others (2 Corinthians 1:3-5)

Amen