



# WISDOM

This term our Collective Worship focus will be based on the value WISDOM. We hope your family 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.

### 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?



## 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.”



## FACINATING FACTS

Why are some teeth called wisdom teeth?

- Your first teeth are called milk teeth. Can you find out about when you cut your first milk tooth?
- Milk teeth normally fall out while you are in primary school and are replaced by your adult teeth, which have to last for the rest of your life!
- 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 *sophonisteres*, thoughtful teeth.
- The name wisdom teeth was adopted in Britain in Victorian times.
- Later in Roman times they were given the name *dentis sapientiae*, teeth of wisdom.
- 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 judgement, because they grow as your people leave school and become wiser and have more responsibility.

## 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 (handwritten 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.

## OTHER BOOKS TO EXPLORE

TITLE	AUTHOR
A squash and a squeeze	Julia Donaldson
The fish who could wish	John Bush
The shore beyond	Mary Joslin
Halibut Jackson	David Lucas
Daft Bat	Jeane Willis
Goose in a Hole	Judith Kerr
The Wise Doll	Hiawyn Oram