

Let Love Rule!

September 2018

The Pharisees gathered around Jesus and saw some of his disciples eating food with unwashed hands. So, they asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples keep to our rules about eating with clean hands?”

Jesus replied, “You have forgotten God’s rules and made up your own traditions instead.” He gathered the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone. No one is made unclean by what goes into them. It is what they do that makes them unclean. For it is out of a person’s heart that evil thoughts come - theft, greed, lies, rudeness, jealousy, telling tales and arrogance. All these evils come from inside a person and make them unclean.”

Paraphrased from Mark 7:1-8

In this Gospel reading for Sunday 2 September, Jesus talks about God’s rules which are at odds with the rules of the land at that time. In many ways, Jesus is a rule-breaker! This is because he emphasises that the most important rule for life is love: to love God and love others.

As children return to school after the long summer holidays, they will be reminded of – or taught for the first time - the many rules that enable a school to operate and grow. Essentially, however, the greatest rule that school can teach children is the rule to love; love on another, love family, love the community and love God in an ever-deeper, more intimate relationship.

As we begin the new school year, let us pray that our children will learn and live out this great rule.

The New School Year

In assembly time, we have asked pupils to reflect on how they are feeling at the start of the new school year and to reflect on how they might ‘let love rule’. You might like to engage in this discussion at home.

Image of happy boy	Image of reluctant elephant	Image of girl with mixed feelings
Do you run through the school gates full of happiness, like the boy here?	Or did you need a little encouragement to go to school, like this reluctant elephant?	Or are you not quite sure how you feel, like this girl

Prayer

Dear Jesus,
Help me to let love rule today.
I place in your loving care

- My family
- My friends
- My school and work
- My world
- Myself

Amen