

Some things to think about...





Once upon a time there was a boy with a very difficult character.

His father gave him a bag full of nails and told him to drive one nail in the garden fence every time he lost his patience or had an argument with someone.



On the first day the boy drove 37 nails into the garden fence.

In the following weeks, the boy learned to control himself and the number of nails driven in the fence got lower every day.

The boy discovered that it was easier to learn to control himself than to hammer nails into the fence.



At last, the day came when the boy did not drive any nails into the garden fence.

Then he went to his father and told him that on that day he had not needed to hammer in any nails.



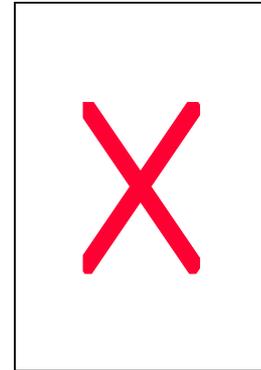
His father told him to take out one nail from the fence for every day he succeeded in controlling his temper.

Many days passed and finally the boy could tell his father that he had taken out all the nails from the fence.



The father took his son to stand in front of the fence and spoke to him:  
« My son, you behaved well, but look how many holes you left in the fence »

When you have an argument with someone  
or speak unkindly to them,  
you leave them with wounds.

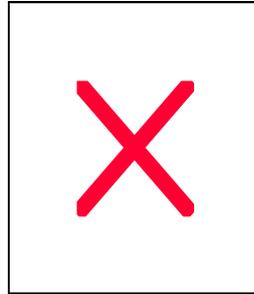


If you stab a man and then take the knife out,  
you still leave a wound.

A wound caused by words hurts just as badly as a physical wound.

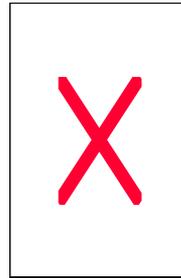
Remember to speak kindly to your friends and to other people you meet.

Don't wound someone deliberately, and, if you wound them by mistake, say sorry.



Don't think that it is a positive 'macho' thing to be rude or unpleasant.

When you talk down to someone or say nasty things  
you make yourself look pathetic not them.



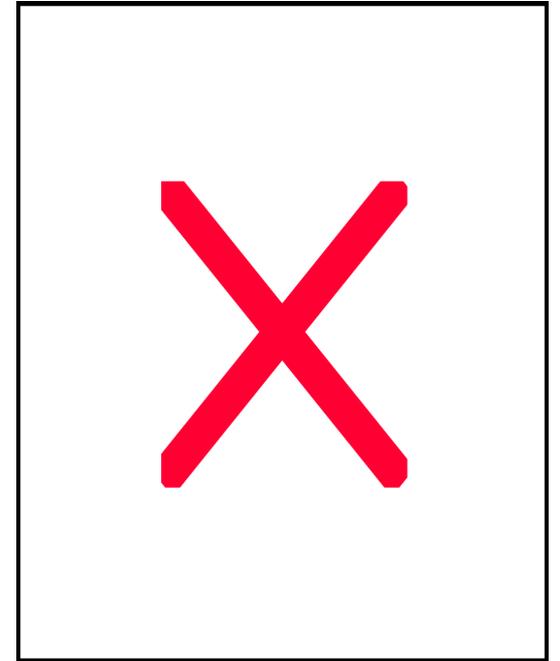
Good guidance to remember:

if you have a choice of two ways to behave  
choose the one that you won't be ashamed of later.

If you regret saying something  
or doing something  
try to  
find a way to say sorry or make amends.



« You pass this way but once;  
any good that you can do, therefore, do it,  
for you will not pass this way again. »



If someone does you a good turn,  
say thank you.



Be kind.



Keep an eye out for people who are unhappy.  
See if you can make a difference to their lives.





If you see something bad happening,  
tell someone,  
or it may happen again

Don't be afraid  
to show someone that you care.





Make sure you listen as well as talk.





Be a good friend.



Don't write people off because of the way they look.

Be prepared to include people in even if they seem different to you.



Think before you act.

Remember that you are responsible for your actions.

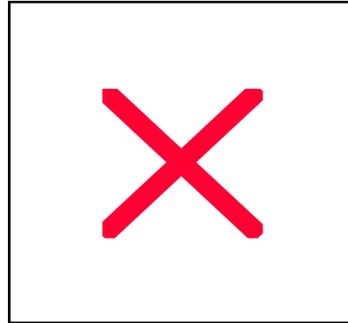
Don't rush into a situation without considering the consequences.



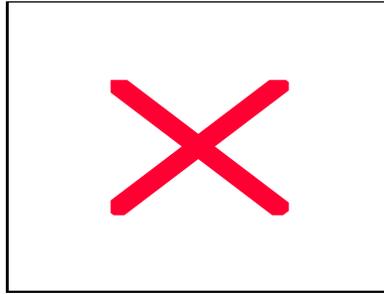
Do not let a small misunderstanding ruin a great friendship;

if you realise you have made a mistake,  
correct it immediately.





If you see someone without a smile today,  
give them one of yours.



Share generously.

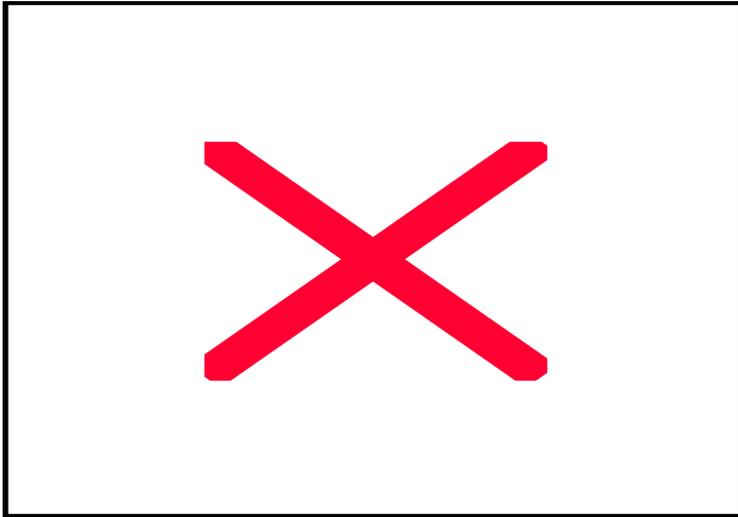


Do not trample other people under foot to get your own way.



Nelson Mandela said that the world has a 'rainbow' of people.

We come in all shapes and sizes, loud and quiet, super brainy and not so brainy,  
artistic, musical, sporty...



We all have different talents and  
different ways of doing things.

Never mock someone for being  
different to you.

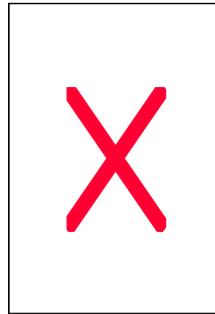
Chill out from time to time.

Don't let yourself get too wound up by life.



3CJM

Stand apart from the crowd.



Bye for now.



Abingdon School,  
2006.