

# Thoughtful Thursday

St Giles' & St George's CofE Academy – Class based collective worship from Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026  
Invitational and inspirational at home discussion prompt followings today's class worship. (If you would like to use it)



## In the news this week

Recently, a new award, called the Jane Goodall Earth Medal, has been created to celebrate people who work to help others and care for the world. It is named after Dr Jane Goodall, who spent her life protecting animals and encouraging people to look after nature. The award recognises kind and caring actions that make a positive difference, even when people are not looking for praise.

### Things to talk about at home ...

- > What do you think about the new award? Share with someone at home. Do you believe it's important to recognise kind actions?
- > Can you think of someone you know who helps others or cares for the world in everyday ways?
- > Can you come up with other ways that people can be recognised for their actions?



**THE BIG QUESTION ?**

**Can awards encourage people to help others and care for the world?**

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others



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Below is some of the information that was shared today during class worship - this may help your discussions at home

ASSEMBLY RESOURCE



Read through the information below all about Jane Goodall and the new award. What kind of actions do you think might win the award?

## Who was Jane Goodall?

Dr Jane Goodall was a scientist who became famous for studying chimpanzees in the wild – even described as a chimpanzee expert. She wanted to learn how animals live, think and behave.

### What did she do?

Jane spent many years in Africa, watching chimpanzees closely. She discovered that they use tools, have families and friendships, and show feelings – just like humans.

### Why is she important?

Her work helped people understand that humans and animals are closely connected. It also changed how scientists study animals.



**Picture:** The mural, 'Jane Goodall Singing Tree of Love', on display at a zoo in the USA. It celebrates Jane's life and work, and how she helped people understand the special connection between people and animals like chimpanzees. **Source:** singingtreeproject.org

## The Jane Goodall Earth Medal

### Who can receive the medal?

The medal can be given to people from around the world who help animals, the environment, or who help grow human connections with nature. They might be scientists, community leaders, teachers, or others working to improve the world.

### Why was it created?

The award was created to celebrate kindness, care and responsibility, and to show that helping others and looking after the world really matters.

### What is the main message of the medal?

The Jane Goodall Earth Medal reminds us that small actions can have a big impact, and that anyone can help make the world a better place.



Resource one



Look at the resource below, which shows different occasions when people might receive awards.

### School awards

E.g., certificates for good behaviour or reading



### Special recognitions

E.g., soldiers receiving medals, people breaking world records



### Helping out

E.g., volunteering to plant trees or clean up litter



### Competitions

E.g., sports, art, writing, music



**1**  
Can you guess why these people received an award?

**2**  
Do all awards look the same?  
Can awards be given for helping out/taking part, or only for winning?

**3**  
Which one stands out to you the most? Why?  
If you could give an award to someone you know, who would it be and what for?  
Do you think people should help others even if they do not get an award?



## Mutual Respect and Tolerance

The Jane Goodall Earth Medal shows us that being respectful means looking after all living things. It encourages tolerance by focusing on a goal that brings different cultures and beliefs together to protect our world.



## UN Rights of the Child

Children have the right to speak out on matters that affect them and are encouraged to be active citizens. Society should take children's concerns for nature and others seriously and value their ideas.

