A silhouette of a person standing on a pier or beach, with their arms outstretched horizontally. The background is a sunset over the ocean, with a gradient from purple at the top to orange and yellow near the horizon. The person's hair is blowing in the wind.

Look back in forgiveness, forward in hope, down
in compassion, and up with gratitude

- Zig Ziglar

End of the school year

And prayers for the environment

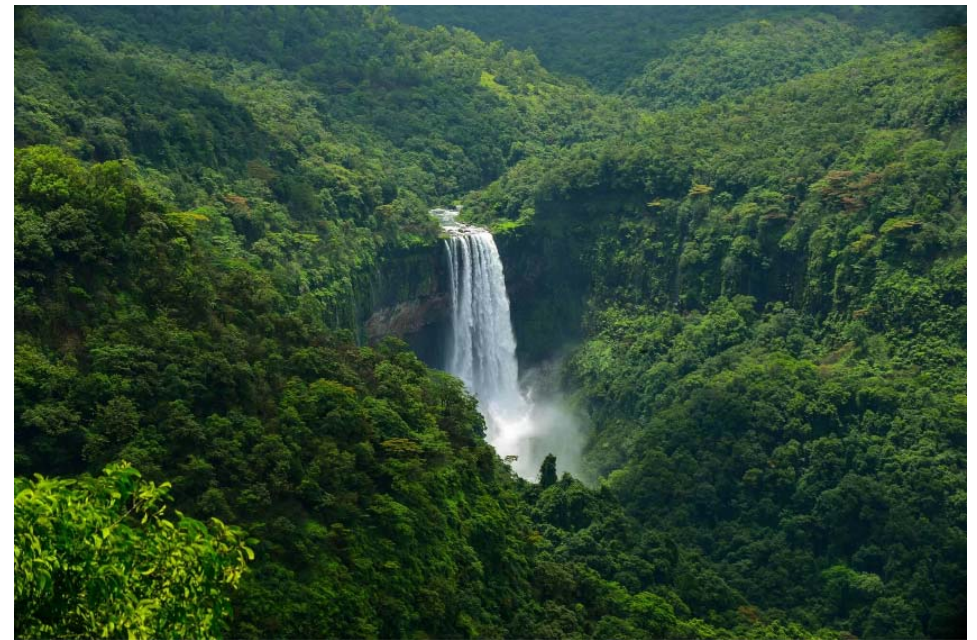
Week Commencing 13th July



HOW COOL IS IT THAT
THE SAME GOD, WHO
CREATED MOUNTAINS,
& OCEANS,
& GALAXIES, LOOKED AT YOU &
THOUGHT THE WORLD NEEDED
ONE OF YOU TOO?

Monday 13th July

Dear God,
at the start of this week we thank
you for the wonder of creation, for
the so loving and intricate design
and for all that is part of it. Help us
to care for and love the earth and
all of creation you have blessed us
with. Help us to see its beauty.
Amen



Monday 13th July



Dear Jesus,

It's easy to be lazy in the summer. Our schedules are easier and we have time to do what we want.

Help us to see that time is a gift we're called to use wisely.

Help us remember what we've learned this year, to nurture friendships we made, and to be helpful where needed.

Amen.

Tuesday 14th July

Creator God, who made our beautiful world,
appointed us as its guardians
and gifted us with everything we need,
forgive us
for the times we cause it harm;
for the times our way of life
affects our neighbours.
Inspire us
to care for the environment;
to help rebuild lives and communities;
to share in the griefs and anxieties,
joys and hopes of all your people,
so that all your creation may flourish.
Amen.



Tuesday 14th July



Dear God,

We thank you for all that we have enjoyed at Upton this year. The lessons, our teachers, the clubs and the excursions, the food in the dining room, the beautiful environment, the support we received during lockdown and the joy of friendship.

We thank you that we have been given the chance to make a difference in the world by fundraising and donating to many good and worthwhile causes. May we never stop trying to find ways to make the world a better place.

Help us never to take for granted the many gifts we have been given and the richness of the lives that we live. Bless us all as this school year draws to a close.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Wednesday 15th July



'The natural world is not a possession to be seized but a gift to be received with gratitude and reverence'

FCJ The Faithfulness Of God Book

Think about creation for a moment,
What's your favourite thing?
Thank God for this today.

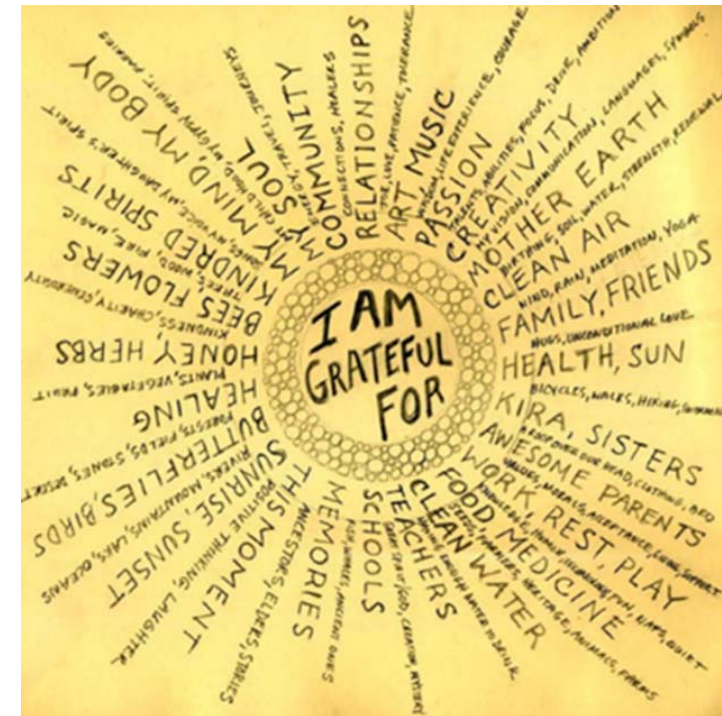


Wednesday 15th July

Taize chant: In the Lord I'll be ever thankful

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAx8gjQrsOY>

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,
In the Lord I'll rejoice.
Look to God, do not be afraid,
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;
Lift up your voices the Lord is near.



Thursday 16th July



Lord,

Today we pray in thanks for all those who work so hard to protect our environment and to promote good stewardship.

Give them the strength and courage to carry on. Pour back into them everything they have been pouring out and may they soon begin to see the fruits of their labour.

Amen.

Thursday 16th July



Dear God,

At the close of another school year, we offer you our deepest thanks for the care and love you have shown to each one of us. We thank you for the dedication and service of the members of staff who are leaving us. We thank you for the gift of our education, for the joy of friendship and the support of our families. Bless and look after us all during this summer holiday. May we return to school in September renewed and refreshed.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



May this eternal truth be always on our hearts,
That the God who breathed this world into being,
Placed stars into the heavens
And designed a butterfly's wing,
Is the God who entrusted his son
to the care of ordinary people,
became vulnerable that we might know
how strong is the wonder of Love.
A mystery so deep it is impossible to grasp.
A mystery so beautiful it is impossible to ignore

Thought for the weekend



“**Never doubt** that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can **change the world.** Indeed, it is **the only thing that ever has.**”

Margaret Mead



Goalcast