This week’s Virtue of the Week will be **PERSEVERANCE**.

**Monday: WHAT IS PERSEVERANCE?**

Perseverance is being purposeful and steadfast. It is sticking to something, staying committed, no matter how long it takes or what obstacles appear to stop you. A good example is the story of the tortoise and the hare. The tortoise won the race because he persevered—he didn’t let anything stop him or distract him. He kept on going.

*Daily Reflective Question(s)*

**Tuesday: WHY PRACTICE PERSEVERANCE?**

Without perseverance, people give up on things easily. They don’t keep their promises. When we persevere, people can depend on us to finish what we start and to keep our commitments. When we persevere, we stay friends even when the friendship is tested. We don’t give up until a problem is solved.

*Daily Reflective Question(s)*

**Wednesday: HOW DO YOU PRACTICE PERSEVERANCE?**

You practice perseverance by committing to someone or something. Choose your commitments wisely and then stick with them. When you commit to a task, pace yourself and be persistent, doing it step-by-step. Stand by your friends even when they aren’t much fun, or are having a hard time. When trouble or doubts come up, be like a strong ship in a storm. Don’t let yourself become battered or blown off course. Just ride the waves.

*Daily Reflective Question(s)*

**Thursday: SIGNS OF SUCCESS**

Congratulations! You are practicing Perseverance when you…

- Think before deciding to commit to someone or something
- Pace yourself
- Set goals and stick with them until they are completed
- Take one step at a time, remaining steady
- Don’t let doubts or tests blow you off course
- Stand by your friends and loved ones

*Daily Reflective Question(s)*
Friday: AFFIRMATION

I have perseverance. I keep a steady pace in what I choose to do. I keep on keeping on. I finish what I start. I am a loyal and committed friend.

*Daily Reflective Question(s)

**Daily Reflective Questions:**

What would Perseverance look like if…
- You begin to feel bored being with a longtime friend?
- You are in the middle a hard job and begin to feel tired?
- You have spent a lot of time practicing a sport or dance and doubt if you have what it takes?
- Your family is hiking to the top of a mountain and you don’t think you can make it?
- You are doing something you have never done before and are afraid you won’t get it right?
- Your best friend moves away and you don’t want to forget each other?

When in your life have you been like the Hare?

When in your life have you been like the Tortoise?

How can you tell if you want to commit to a new friend?

What qualities do you look for in a friend?

How do the following jobs need perseverance? What would happen if people in these roles did not persevere?
- Parent
- Fire Fighter
- Professional Athlete
- Teacher
- Inventor

*Everybody Smiles in the Same Language*