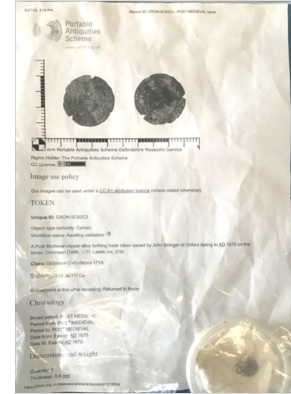


LUKE O'BYRNE



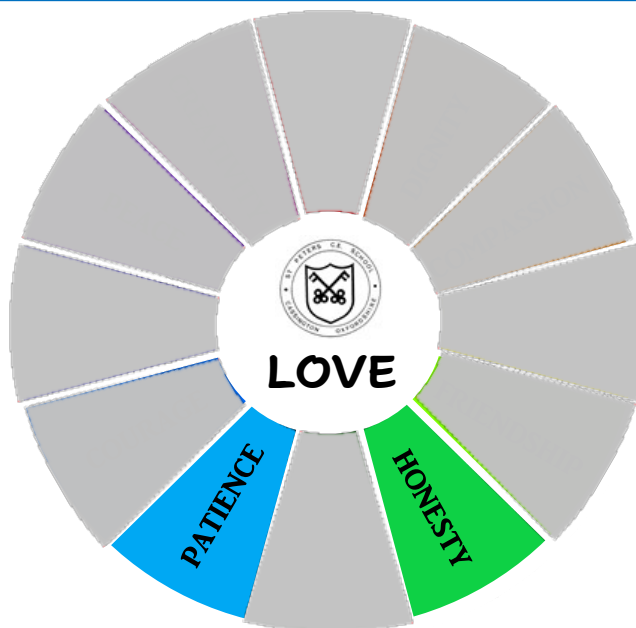
Luke came to talk to us about his fascinating hobby of metal detecting. He has made some amazing discoveries but has also dug up lots of rubbish like tin cans. He explained how you can get incredibly muddy and once he even had to dig himself out of a hole! Luke first came to school after a pupil at St Peter's found a 17/18th century token while digging in the pond area. He sent it off to be analysed for us and he found it was a token from a saddler and was probably given as change.

His best finds around Cassington includes a quarter dollar coin from between 1918 to 1930. This might have been from one of the American soldiers who were here to fight in the war. He has also found a Roman mount, Saxon strap end, a medieval brooch, a Saxon brooch and a toy cannon. Luke has even found a papal seal from a letter from the Pope between 1198 and 1216.

HONESTY

Metal detectorists have to be honest about their finds by telling the landowner if they find anything significant. Luke shares the value of the object 50/50 with the landowner.

You can go to prison if you don't declare finds properly!



PATIENCE

Luke spends many weekends with his metal detector. More often than not he doesn't find anything. He needs lots of patience to persist and especially in inclement weather and conditions.

MESSAGE TO US

Metal Detecting is not about the money; it is the history where the treasure really is