

Newsletter

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

This week in Collective Worship we all watched the Year 6 dress rehearsal of their play, Oliver. It is always wonderful to watch children who have worked and rehearsed together, performing with such great enthusiasm and joy.

There is however something particularly special about the Year 6 performance each year, coming as it does with just a matter of weeks of their time at primary school left.

For school staff and parents alike, the Year 6 performance is an opportunity to remember how far the children have come since they started school some seven years earlier. It is a time to remember the challenges overcome, the friendships established and the memories made.

In schools, this time of year provides many opportunities for reflection and celebration. Teachers are beginning to draw together the learning of the past year, reports are being written and it is time to recognise how far children have progressed. Watching children on the sports field or performing on stage is a moment to celebrate fears mastered and challenges overcome.

I am really looking forward to the opportunities that the coming weeks will provide for more opportunities to come together and reflect on our journey together over the past year. Next week our younger children will have their sports event, in the following weeks will come the Early Years presentation to parents and our Leavers' Service.

For each of us, these events will provide a unique moment to pause, to remember and to celebrate. The joy of being community is that we have journeyed together and so as well as those private celebrations, there is time for collective celebration and joy. I do hope that you will enjoy these events as much as the children and staff will and that as well as congratulating your children, you will take a moment to pat yourself on the back.

In school this has been the last week in which we have been exploring our Value of Goodness. This time of year perhaps lends itself towards our reflections. The days are often sunny, we are closing off the academic year with opportunities to celebrate together and we may even be looking forward to a summer holiday.

Part of our thinking about Goodness however recognises that it is not always easy to see the good, in people, circumstances or our world. The challenge for us is to learn to look for and celebrate Goodness, even when it is not obvious. There will always be difficult times, dark days and people who we struggle to like; displaying Goodness is much harder at those times than on a sunny summer Tuesday watching children give of their all on the sports' field.

In these last weeks of term, whether you are joining us in school for events, hearing about them from your grandchildren, or simply enjoying photos in the newsletter, I hope you will find much that makes you smile and that enables you to see Goodness. For each of us, I hope too that seeing Goodness will enable us to demonstrate Goodness. As the quote on our staff room board this week has reminded us - *'Goodness is a process of becoming, not of being. What we do over and over again is what we become in the end.'*

News from Around the School

The remainder of the school year is full of all sorts of additional events and activities. This week our children in Year 6 performed 'Oliver' to their friends and family. Both performances were fantastic, with the children throwing themselves into their roles and performing with confidence and style! Well done to all of them – it was a great show.







Upper School Sports

It was wonderful to welcome friends and family on to the school field earlier this week for our Upper School Sports event. The children gave of their best, as well as working together as a team and encouraging one another. Well done everyone.



Year 6 Cricket

Last week, a team of ten Year 6 boys took part in the Under 11's Kwik cricket tournament. The boys played brilliantly and working together they were successful in coming second, which meant that they went through to the second round, played yesterday in Kidlington. It was a wonderful day of cricket, our thanks to the parents who transported children and stayed to cheer them on – it would not have happened without you. Despite only losing one match, the boys came a very creditable fourth overall.



100 Club

The winner of the 100 club this month was ticket number 55, which was bought by Michaela Stares.

Congratulations to Michaela – we hope she enjoys spending her winnings!

Music lessons

This is the time of year to sign up for Music Lessons starting in September. If you do get the chance to attend the Wood Green Music Concert in the last week of term, then look out for our former pupils, playing in their various music groups.

If your child is interested in making music their future career, or just a hobby to enjoy, please do find out more about lessons at our school.

Currently, our school offers piano lessons with Mr McInroy and Mrs Gray and guitar, clarinet, flute, violin and trombone lessons from the Oxfordshire Music Service. To find out more about piano lessons please send in an email to the school office to be passed onto the two piano teachers.

To find out more about the Oxfordshire Music Service and to sign up online if you are interested for your child to learn please go to their website:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/music-service/music-lessons/learning-instrument>

Loving, learning and flourishing in Community