

# Newsletter

## News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

As we have continued to look at our Value of Unity and Co-operation, we thought this week about being what the Bible calls being 'beautifully and wonderfully made'. In Collective Worship we thought together about how being different adds richness to our community and that though we are all different, each of us is valuable.

It was a delight to hear your children talking through the importance of disagreeing well, it is a challenge that many of us struggle with as adults! As a community we talked about where a disagreement can turn into an argument and why we should avoid that. We can not only be different, but hold different views, disagreement between members of our community does not stop there being unity.

Whilst different points of view can seem to add to the challenge (they can certainly be hard work), we concluded that these differences actually bring real richness to our community.

We enjoyed reading together a passage from the Bible all about unity, where Christians are described as a body –

*'Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.*

*The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" God has put the body together, giving greater honour to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.'*

The passage reminded us that we are not all meant to be the same, we are in fact better for our differences, it is the way we were created to be. And where our differences make things hard, our Values give us a way to manage that well. I am looking forward to continuing to explore together how our Christian Values can help us co-operate together and to be a community characterised by unity.

## Values Award

Well done to everyone who earned a Values Award this week.

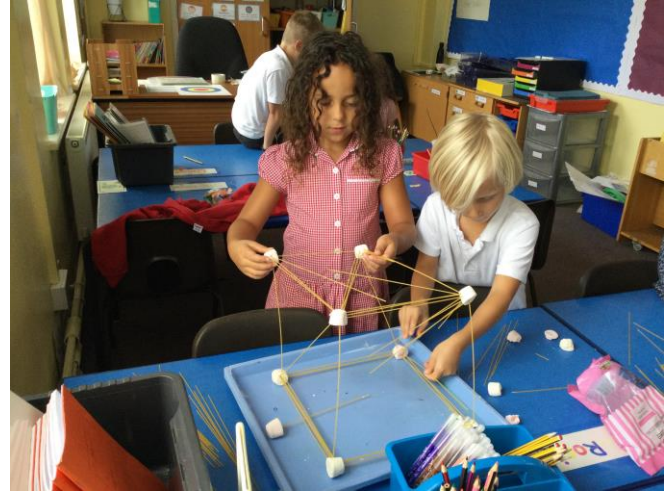
Certificates were given for showing perseverance, kindness and love as well as for being courageous. A special well done to Freddie who showed particular courage when starting swimming lessons with school last week.



## News from Around the School

In Year 2, in line with their topic on traditional tales and houses and materials in science, the children have been undertaking an investigation to see which materials would make the strongest house. The children came up with their own ideas in teams and then built their houses. Their materials ranged from books to sticks, marshmallows to spaghetti, cups to junk modelling. Then to make it a fair test, the children tried to make them all the same size.

The children then blew a BIG BAD hairdryer from the same distance away for the same amount of time. Despite 'huffing and puffing', they could blow none of them down!



The children worked really well in their teams, co-operating with one another both to design and build their houses.

Some houses were much harder to build than others!

There was some great scientific thinking taking place as children made sure that the test was a fair one.

## Please don't use our gates to turn your car

Please forgive the repetition of this message, but this morning we had a near miss outside our gates involving one of our youngest children. If you need to turn your car, please use the Farm Museum car park to do so. We know that this can involve additional time, but keeping our whole community safe is our paramount concern. Thank-you.



## CUPPA AND A CHAT AT COGGES FARM CAFE



The Friends of The Blake School invite you to join them at Cogges Farm Café on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 1pm .  
Meet other parents and share ideas of how we can support the school and raise funds to enhance the children's time at school. Pop along and say hello.  
If you would rather listen in on Zoom – just contact the below email for the link or more information. [friends@blake.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:friends@blake.oxon.sch.uk)

## Protect your child from the flu

The annual school-aged flu vaccination programme is, this year, being offered to all children in Reception – Year 6. Vaccinations are being given in school on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September.

For most children, the vaccination is painless and given by a quick and simple spray up the nose.

Whether or not you wish your child to have the vaccine, click the link

<https://www.oxfordhealthimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

Enter the Unique School Code OX141840 and complete the form.

Vaccination helps protect the whole community. Find out more about the vaccination at [www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms/](http://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms/)

## Please check your child's hair

Whilst the return to school in September brings many great things, it sadly also brings with it the stuff of parental nightmares! Head lice (nits) is one such thing.

Over the weekend, please check your child's hair for any signs of eggs, or lice. If you find any, please treat your child before they come into school on Monday. Keeping long hair tied back can really help reduce the spread of the lice.

Our Year 3 cohort seem to be particularly badly affected at the moment, so if your child is in Mrs Usher-Wilson's class, please take an extra careful look through your child's hair this weekend. Thank-you.



## Well done to our footballers

This week, a team of seven girls from Years 5 and 6 played the first game in the Witney Schools' Partnership under 11's girls' football tournament.

Despite several of them never having played football before and not having a chance to practice together, the girls played with determination, supporting each other and encouraging each other when they found things tricky. The game was a lot of fun, it was great to see their smiles... they were wonderful!

## Celebrating harvest

We hope you have been enjoying listening to your children practising their harvest songs!

Next week in school, the children will be celebrating harvest both in Collective Worship and in their classrooms. At the end of the week, in our Friday Collective Worship, we will be celebrating being able to share what we have with others.

We are therefore asking if any children who wish to do so, could bring in an item of non-perishable food to share with those who need it. Please bring items into school on either Thursday or Friday, so that they can be added to our harvest display.

We welcome items in packets, tins, cartons, jars or boxes – please no fresh produce. Thank-you.

## Book fair

One common theme of all of our curriculum evenings, is encouraging your children to read to you and you to read to your children. However old your child is, there is nothing more valuable than sharing a book together.

Next week we will welcome the travelling book fair to the school, please see the attached document for all the details.

You can come and buy books before school on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September (doors open at 8.30am) or after school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October (doors open at

## Applications for secondary school

If your child is currently in Year 6, you need to apply for a place for them at secondary school by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

Using the online portal is the easiest way to apply for a place, [click here](#) to log in.

## Volunteers in school

Over the past couple of years, it has not been possible to welcome volunteers into school. We are delighted that this year we are able to once again welcome volunteers into school to hear readers or help with sewing/baking for example. If you are available to come and help in school, please do email the school office – [office.3600@blake.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3600@blake.oxon.sch.uk)