

Newsletter

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

In Collective Worship this week we drew together all our thoughts from through January relating to our Value of Compassion. As always it is heartening to see how much your children have remembered and how they have been working to try and show the things they have learned in their day to day lives.

This week we returned to a familiar Bible passage from 1 Corinthians 12 in which God's people are referred to as a body. A body needs all of its different parts to be a body and a body is more than just one single part. Together we thought about the line that comes at the end of the passage which says – 'If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it.'

Adults and children alike know that if you have a headache, or you have fallen over and hurt your knee, your whole body is affected, the pain is felt all over your body. We could all identify with how we need to care for our whole body, because it is not just disconnected parts and that helped us to think about how, as a community, we are all connected to one another.

We talked to each other about the impact it has on each of us when our friends are sad, or if someone is having a tricky time. Some of our children have been especially compassionate to a new friend over the past weeks, demonstrating well the importance of community in helping each other through tough times. As we see the challenges faced by others, so we should be moved to do something about it. It took us right back to the beginning of the month when Mrs Patchett shared that Compassion is not just noticing the suffering of others, but doing something about it.

To help us develop that, I shared a short passage with the children –

'Walk a mile in my shoes...
See what I see,
hear what I hear,
feel what I feel...
Then maybe you'll understand
why I do what I do...
till then, don't judge me.'

We none of us know what our neighbours may be facing in their lives, often even friends don't share very widely the challenges they face. We are thrown together as a community, spending time together each day, but we do not know what the other has left behind and to what they will return. I think it does us all good to pause and to wonder what difficulties the person sitting next to us may be managing. Perhaps the person who responded grumpily to us has had some bad news, maybe the person who doesn't want to play is worried about something happening at home, could it be that the person who we think is ignoring us is actually lost in thought about a poorly relative?

We may often be called to show Compassion when we don't know the reason for another's suffering. As we live as community together, we are at our best when we behave like we do with our own body, listening to it, taking care of it, and noticing when parts of it need a bit of extra attention. Well done to all the children who I have seen caring for their classmates in that way this week.

Values Awards

Well done to the children who this week demonstrated behaviours that the adults in school noticed as living by our Values. Their behaviour demonstrates the positive impact that we can have on one another when we choose to show our Values.



Year 6 boys' football

Mrs Hurley and Mrs Patchett enjoyed accompanying a team of nine Year 6 boys to play their first partnership football match.

The match was played against Queen Emma's School at the 4G pitch.

The team worked really well together, showing good sportsmanship and encouraging one another throughout the game.

The boys came away with an 8-4 victory; congratulations to them all.



New Spring menu

The school lunch menu for after February half-term has now been updated and is available to book on ParentPay.

There are some new meal choices, as well as the return of some favourites.

Please don't forget that meals have to be booked by midnight on a Thursday. You can book right through to the end of the school year if you would like to do so!

Whenever the menu is changed it is great to see children trying new foods. If a meal choice isn't quite what a child was expecting, we will always do our best to sort out something they can eat.

However, please do remember to check in with your child, to find out if they have enjoyed their new choice. You can always change meal choices that you have already booked, as long as it is before midnight on the preceding Thursday.

Outstanding payments

We are aware that these are challenging times for many families. If you are finding it difficult to make payment for swimming, resources, a future trip, or our ABC provision, please do speak to us in confidence. If payment has just slipped your mind – please do check amounts owing on ParentPay, we may not be able to go ahead with some events if expected income does not meet our costs.

News from Around the School

Our children in our Early Years classes are enjoying travelling the world! In the past few weeks they have been jetting off to the Polar Regions and to China, meeting explorers and celebrating the Chinese New Year. Children have been tasting new foods, as well as learning about different cultures.



Loving, learning and flourishing in community