

Newsletter

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

It has been another (hot and) busy week in school. As the end of the academic year draws closer, there is lots of finishing off, tidying up and sorting out. Whilst there are lots of end of year celebrations going on, it has been great to see your children still engaging in learning and making the most of these last days of term.

We began the week in Collective Worship thinking about Thoughtfulness, our Value of the Month for July. Pausing to be thoughtful is a particular challenge for all of us in these busy last days of term!

We reflected together on a short passage from the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 7 –

Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?

Listening to the children and adults talking, I think we could all identify moments when we have been much quicker to point out the failings of someone else than we have to recognise our own part in the problem...

I love this quote from Richard Rohr -

'The best criticism of the bad is the practice of the better'

And that was the challenge with which I left the children. It may not be the easiest way, but undoubtedly, practising the better is the very best way of challenging the bad.

Values Awards



A really big well done to those children who, even when they are hot and tired, are still working really hard to live according to our Values.

A special well done to the children who have joined our school in the past couple of weeks – it's great to have you as part of our community.

Parent Survey

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our internal parent survey. A particular thank you to those who did so having already completed the Ofsted Parent View.

If you want to see the data from Ofsted parent view you can do so by [going online](#).

Time will be taken to analyse the 64 responses from parents to our internal survey, but the headlines are –

95% would recommend the school

94% say their child is well looked after

90% say their child is safe in school

91% say their child is happy in school

News from Around the School

The children in Year 5 this week finished reading Varjak Paw, a book that they have really enjoyed. As part of their finishing off activities related to the book, the children have drawn some cats – they look really fabulous on display on the classroom doors.



Tennis!

A group of about a dozen children have this year been given the opportunity, thanks to funding from the Tim Henman foundation, to be coached every week by a tennis professional.

The lessons have been great fun and there has been a huge improvement in the children's skills.

This week the children were all presented with their own racket and balls so that they can continue to practice over the summer holiday!



Music around the school

It has been great to hear more children playing in Collective Worship this week. Children of all abilities have had the confidence to have a go and perform in front of the wider school – well done to them all. Don't forget you can find out more about music lessons in school from the [County Music Service](#).



More News from Around the School

It was a great joy to spend time in St Mary's Cogges on Thursday afternoon sharing together in a service to celebrate all our Year 6 leavers. As Mr Edwards-Grundy reflected, our children in Year 6 were impacted by the pandemic right in the earliest years of their time in school and this was a significant challenge. However, the children have shown great resilience in catching up their lost learning and making the most of every day that they have been in school since. There was so much to celebrate!



News from After School

Enormous thanks to the group of parents who organised and ran Blake Fest last evening for our Year 6 leavers. A fantastic time was had by all. What a wonderful way to celebrate the end of Year 6!



Loving, learning and flourishing in community