

Newsletter

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

We had a lot of fun in Collective Worship this week as we carried on thinking about our Value for this month of Service.

I enjoyed talking to your children about how to use the slackline safely, thinking about how we can serve one another by offering help, by encouraging others and by being courteous in how we use the equipment that we have. It was also great to spend time on the playground during the week, seeing your children serving one another as we had discussed and learning a new skill at the same time!

In Collective Worship we talked about children serving children, children serving teachers, teachers serving teachers and teachers serving children. Your children thought of lots of ways that each group can serve the other. It is the great thing about service, that it doesn't matter how old, or how young you are, there are ways in which you can serve others.

As a staff team, we have the great privilege of serving you and serving your children.

Our Bible reading this week was a very short verse from the Gospel of Mark, chapter 10 verse 45

'Jesus did not come to be served, but to serve.'

It is a powerful reminder that if God came to serve us, we also ought to serve one another.

Last week I set your children the challenge of finding ways to serve you in their homes. Please do help them to think about how they might do this, it doesn't have to be a grand gesture, or something very difficult, the smallest acts of service can often have the biggest impact.

This morning it was my great pleasure to welcome our ODST School Improvement Advisor (Lisa Horton) into The Blake School. Lisa comes to support senior leaders, but also to be a critical friend, making sure that we are working on our development priorities and continuing to serve your children well. You can find out more about our development priorities on our school website.

As I toured the school with Lisa, there was a buzz in every classroom, with children clearly engaged with their learning and working well alongside their peers. It is obvious that your children are settling well into their new classes and are already taking the next steps in their learning. Your children have worked hard this week and there were some very tired people around the building by the end of the day. I hope you enjoy a restful weekend – whatever the weather!

Values Awards

It was wonderful to celebrate your children in Collective Worship this week as I shook hands with the children who received a Values Award. In these first weeks of term, I know all your children are demonstrating perseverance and courage. A special well done though to children who this week have demonstrated our Values in an exceptional way.



Boring practicalities!

All children need a coat in school. Outdoor playtimes will go ahead in all but the most torrential rain. It is not fun for your children to be sitting in wet clothes all afternoon and neither do they want to stay inside in the dry when all their friends are having fun outside. Unless we experience a sudden heatwave, please send a coat in with your child every day.

When it is very wet, you may want to send your child in with wellies, or with spare shoes and socks – wet feet are not nice for anyone.

Please make sure all clothing is named. Our un-named lost property pile is already growing. We can only return things that have a name on them.

The cloakroom doors shut at 8.50am and learning starts straightaway. If your child is late to school, they are missing key learning and revision time. Please help support your child's learning by getting them into school on time.

If your child has a hot dinner, please do talk to them about what they have enjoyed eating this week, and what they have not. It is not uncommon for children to come to us saying that they don't like their meal. We will always do our best to find something your child can eat, but if you can amend meal choices so that children have something they will like, that will save a lot of tears.

Come and join our team

We are currently recruiting for a cleaner and an administrator. You can find out more about the roles on our website and apply via [My New Term](#). If you know of anyone who might be interested in either of the roles, do encourage them to apply. The closing date for applications is noon on Tuesday 23rd September.

Technical challenges!

The company who provides our Management Information Support have this week been beset by technical difficulties. This has meant that we have not yet been able to upload full details for all of our new starters. We believe that the problems are now resolved and so by the end of next week all details should be on the system. If you are the parent of one of our new starters and you are not yet receiving our emails, please accept our apologies. The admin team are working really hard to make up for lost time.

Flu vaccination

Don't forget to go online to give permission for your child to have the flu vaccination in school on 1st October. You need to [fill in the form](#) even if you don't want your child to have the nasal spray, there is an option for you to decline.

Walking home

If your child is in Year 5 or Year 6, they can leave the school site at the end of the day, but only if we have permission for them to do so. Please make sure you have completed the online [form](#). Please also remind your children that on their way to and from school, we expect them to continue to behave as well as we see them behaving in school. Thank you!

Loving,
learning and
flourishing in
community