

Newsletter

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

This week has been a real test of perseverance for all the children in Year 6 as they have tackled their SATs. We are enormously proud of each and every one of them, not just for their achievement this week, but for the perseverance that they have shown in the months and years leading up to this point.

This week is a particular academic marker for the children in Year 6, it is a week which lends itself to reflection on their journey through the school. Each of the children in Year 6 has had to overcome different challenges over the past months and years. Some of those challenges have been personal ones and others have related to their learning, but without exception the children have persevered; my congratulations to them all.

The thing about perseverance is that it can really only be measured over a long period. There are of course some days when we persevere with one challenge, when we stick at something we are finding hard, but more often than not perseverance is measured in weeks, months and years, rather than just a few hours.

Although this week is an obvious week to focus on the perseverance of the children in Year 6, the truth is that all through the school, week in and week out, children are persevering with their learning. As I walked around the school today with some prospective parents, everywhere I went, there were children focusing on their work, seeking greater challenge and striving to achieve the next thing.

The summer term affords a wonderful opportunity for the children to start bringing together their learning through the year to date. The things that they have persevered with all through the year finally begin to come together and they can see for themselves how far they have come.

For your children, whatever school year they are in, their perseverance is often only possible because of the encouragement and support of their friends, their teachers and of course you as parents and wider family. In the New Testament book of Hebrews chapter 12, the Bible refers to this support as 'a great cloud of witnesses', saying that because we have this great support around us, we can put aside all the things that hinder us and slow us down and we can run with perseverance.

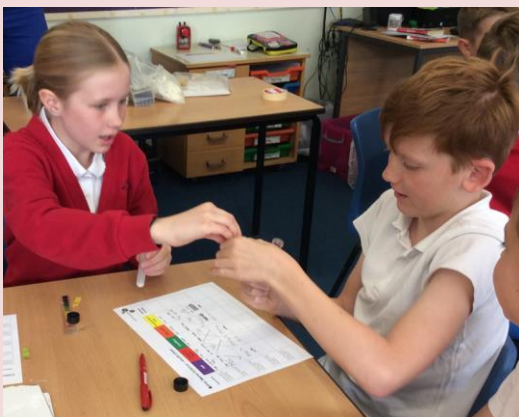
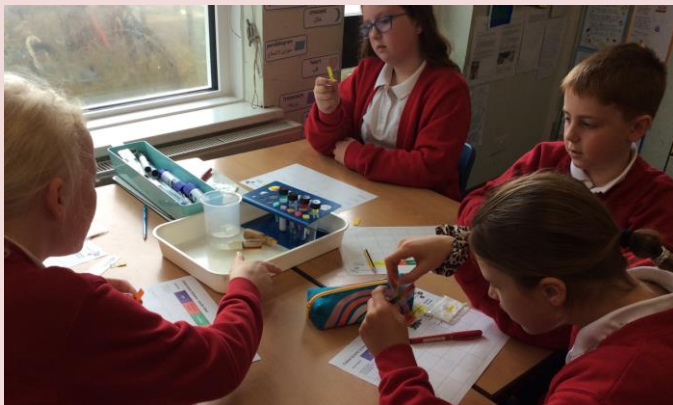
This week therefore I want to begin by thanking all the parents and wider family of the children in Year 6, who have supported us as we have supported your children in the run up to SATs, and during this week. I also however want to acknowledge the ongoing support of all those of you who are surrounding and supporting the children who attend The Blake. Your encouragement day-by-day is what enables your children to persevere, whatever the challenge they are facing.

As the summer term rolls on, your children will need to continue to persevere, both with their learning, but also with the other opportunities that this season provides, there is so much to fit into these summer weeks to cement learning as well as to get ready for the transitions ahead! I know that I speak on behalf of the whole staff team when I say what a privilege it is to be part of the 'great cloud of witnesses' that is encouraging and supporting your children.

Whatever challenges you are having to persevere with this weekend, I pray that you will draw strength from those around you – working together is better for everyone.

News from Around the School

Earlier this week, the children in Year 5 had a fabulous morning with a team from 'Science Oxford.' The children had to test some white powder that was left at the 'crime scene' to see if they could find out what it was. The children used water to see if their powder would dissolve, then they tested the pH of their solution to see if it was acidic, neutral or alkaline and then they added vinegar to see if there would be a reaction (alkaline solutions bubbled as it reacted with the acid). To conclude their experiments they then added iodine to see if there would be a reaction (the flour in the cornflour reacted and turned a purple/black colour).



Loving, learning and flourishing in community