

Newsletter

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

What an end to the week in school – I hope everyone got home without getting too wet!

This week in Collective Worship we were thinking about how we can learn to walk in step with God. Together we thought about how we need to slow down and try and think what it would look like if we really lived by the Values that lie at the heart of the Christian faith and that we talk about day-by-day in school.

This week I have heard a number of adults congratulating children on co-operating with one another, or with the adults they are working with. Co-operation is no small thing, for any of us! At heart, we would all find it *much* easier if things just happened the way that we want them to and in the timeframe we want them to take place. Living in community however, co-operation is vital. For children every day at school is filled with opportunities for co-operation such as turn-taking, waiting to speak, sharing resources and agreeing the rules for a game. The skills they are learning will stand them in good stead for the years to come. Please do ask your children for ways in which they have co-operated this week with their friends and the adults in school, I know they will each be able to share examples with you.

Co-operation is at the heart of community; without it our communities would be hard places. Learning to co-operate with one-another, even though having it our own way feels simpler, is a life lesson for us all!

And so as we ended Collective Worship, we were left thinking about how co-operation can lead to unity and how much better unity is for us as a community. Unity reflects God's character. When we live in unity with one another, we demonstrate something of what God is like. For me the challenge is to learn how to co-operate with one another in a way that also shows all our other Values, because I believe that if we can each manage that, our community will reflect a bit more of God and continue to be the very special place that we all enjoy.

Values Awards

It was wonderful to be able to once again recognise children who have been showing our Values. It has been a fantastic start to the term for all the children, but a special well done to the children whose actions have been noticed this week.



Forest and Farm School

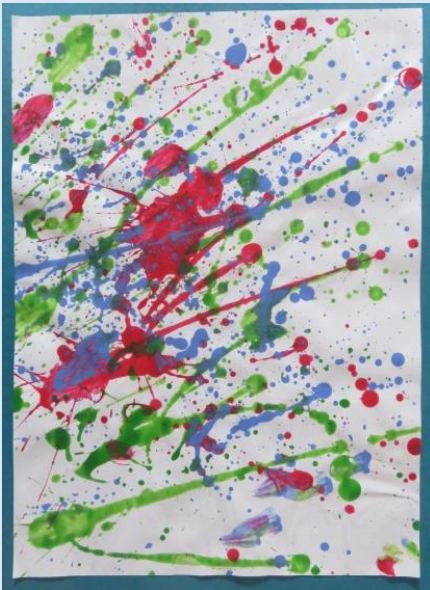
We are delighted that our children in Year 2 are able to spend a day a week, for six weeks, enjoying learning outside and experiencing forest school look forward to sharing pictures of them in future newsletters.

If anyone would like to help the Year 2 team and enjoy a day of fresh air, please do get in touch with the school office – we would love to welcome any enthusiastic volunteers.

No previous experience needed and no long term commitment! If you are free on a Monday, do get in touch.

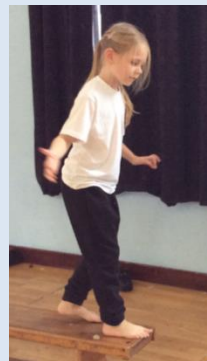
News from Around the School

This week, the children in Year 1 have been painting in the style of Jackson Pollock. The children were however challenged not simply to use any colour they fancied in their painting, but instead to use a colour that reflected how they were feeling. The children used the colours from the book, *The Colour Monster* to demonstrate their emotions and produce some amazing art work.



More News from Around the School

The children in Year 3 really threw themselves in to their PE lessons this week – a great time was had by all. The children showed some impressive new skills and showed courage and perseverance.



Celebrating fantastic writing

This week two of our Year 6 children earned a head teacher award for their amazing writing. The children had been challenged to write a setting description using –

- Expanded noun phrases
- Powerful verbs
- Similies
- Metaphors
- Personification

All the children worked really hard to create some really evocative writing, but Evelyn and Oliver's writing blew Mrs Wheeler's socks off! Mr Edwards-Grundy tried to call the children from Leafield to congratulate the whole class, but they were so busy working that they missed his call! We think the writing is amazing, but no-one wants to visit the city they describe so powerfully.

'The city was as broken as a shattered vase. Every alley was full of revolting bins, overflowing with old, stinking rubbish and fat black rats being watched by stray cats and dogs.

The people were mean, hard and ugly, scowling and arguing, never smiling. Their hearts were shrivelled and rotten like the black trees in the rusty and abandoned park.

The traffic was always grid-locked, car engines snarling like angry dogs and their paint rusting. A black, toxic smog swallowed the city whole and choked the melancholy, selfish residents.

Graffiti covered every crumbling wall and street. The factories screamed and billowed smoke from cracked brick chimneys, throwing more pollution into the toxic air. Unstable, twisted street lights flickered eerily in the ugly, deep grey nights.

Nothing ever grew.

The howls of stray dogs echo, seeming almost silent compared to the dramatic horns. The mundane, scowling people only wore grey or brown clothes, making their broken city less colourful and more lifeless as if they were dark ghosts, walking through cracked streets.

They yellow, gritty wind raged through everywhere, attacking all it passed, never stopping.

Unidentified, spilt drinks stuck to the underside of the emotionless residents' shoes and was licked up by stray dogs with scratched faces and disgusting mucky fur. The air tasted of rust and rubble, throwing itself into the open, gaping mouths of the thoughtless inhabitants. And it seemed that it was staying that way.' Evelyn

'Black, suffocating, toxic fumes engulfed the city and the emotionless residents dragged themselves through parks laced with glass and rubble.

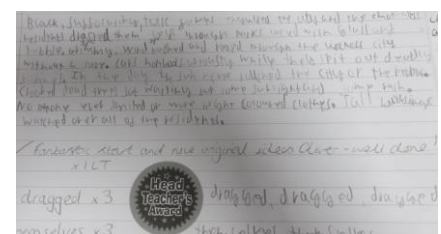
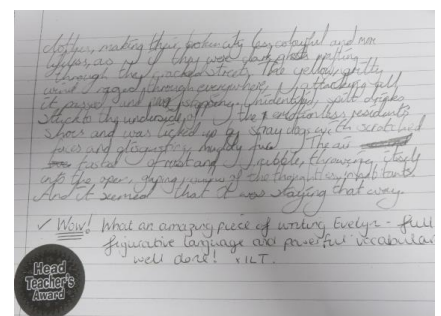
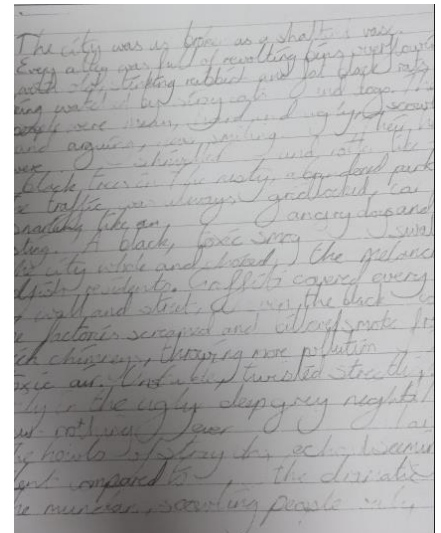
Grimy wind rushed and roared through the lifeless city without a care.

Cars honked furiously, while they spat out deadly fumes.

In the day, the sun never touched the city or the people. Crooked, dead trees sat waiting for some sunlight.

No-one ever smiled, or wore bright coloured clothes.

Tall buildings watched over all the residents.' Oliver



Loving, learning
and flourishing in
community

