

Newsletter

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

Happy New Year!

After the Christmas break, I have really enjoyed seeing your children back in school this week. Whether it has been in Collective Worship, on the playground, or as I have dropped into classrooms, your children have been enthusiastic, engaged, and eager to share their learning and their news.

In Collective Worship this week we introduced our new Value of Justice. As always, your children had some amazing insights into the Value; I am looking forward to continuing to explore the Value in the coming weeks.

As we returned to school, in every classroom and corridor, greetings of 'Happy New Year' could be heard. Inevitably, after questions about family and Christmas activities, the conversations turn to New Year's resolutions, whether any have been made and what they are?

Twelve days into 2024, I wonder how many of your resolutions have not yet been broken?!

Fuelled by adverts on the television and social media, we dream of a whole new us...give up x, take up y, book a holiday and everything will be different, we will be different...better.

There is of course much to be gained from New Year's resolutions, our motives are good. We want to be healthier, to eat better, to drink less, to invest time in people and things that are important to us, to invest in our wellbeing. However, whilst the New Year can motivate us to change and better ways of spending our time, I think there is a danger that resolutions can contribute to negative feelings, that we have somehow missed the mark, that our lives are not good enough.

I love the verse that this week is written above our hall doors.

'Do not be afraid, I called you by name, you are mine.' Isaiah 43 verse 1

That verse is a reminder to me, as I think about the resolutions I have made (and broken) and those that I am still on track with, that God says my value is not tied up in my success or failure or what my life looks like. Each of us has value because God says we do, he has called us by our name. Whatever my resolutions, however worthy they are, and whether or not I keep them, the central truth of my faith is unchanged – I matter because God says I do.

None of us knows what 2024 will hold for us, either individually or as a community. The fact that I am loved by God is for me what allows me to step into the year with confidence.

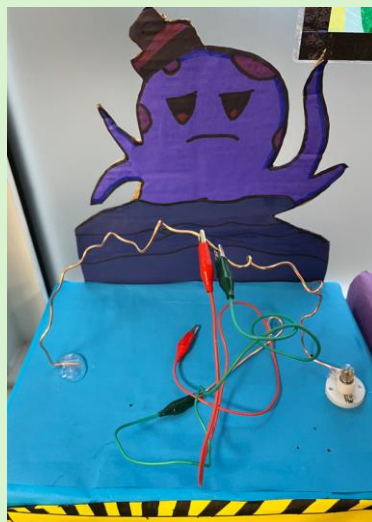
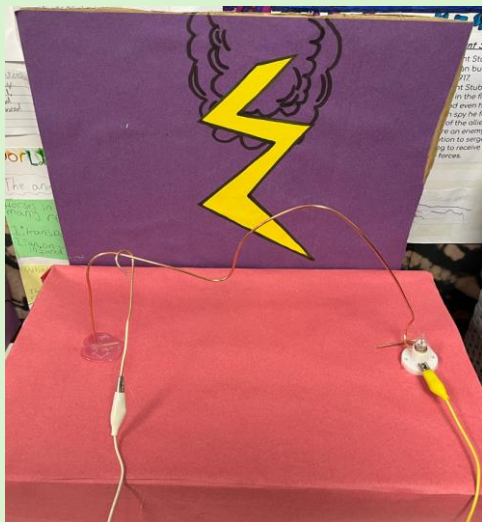
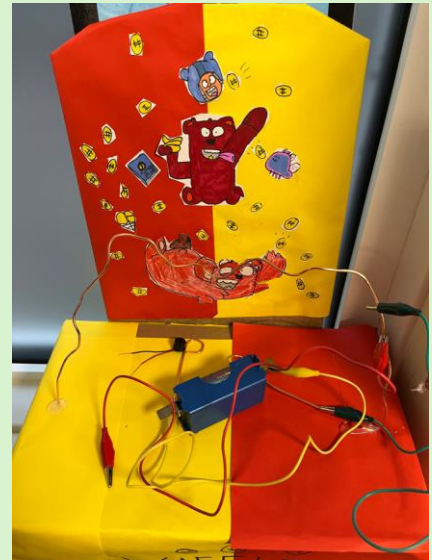
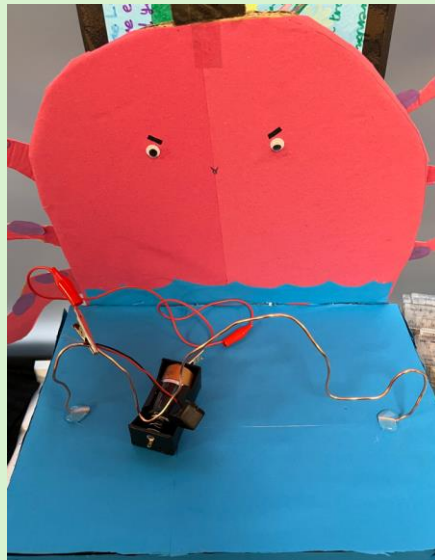
Whatever you feel about 2024, whether the London fireworks are long forgotten, or you are still holding to your resolutions, I wish you and those who you love, a happy and peaceful New Year.

Our new School website

We are delighted that our new school website is now live. The website is still a work in progress, but we hope you enjoy looking at it. We are indebted to Edmund Blok who has spent time in school capturing everyday moments. Please bear with us as we continue to update information and add more images to the site to make it more user friendly.

News from Around the School

Our children in Year 6 have been very busy learning about electrical circuits. They have also employed their design skills in creating a game that will show off their science knowledge.



JAM club (Wednesday) and Premier Soccer football club (Monday) both start again this coming week. Zumba (Monday), Choir (Thursday) and Jazz Dance (Friday) have already started.

PE kit being worn on PE days

From Monday, we are encouraging children in Years 1 -6 to wear their PE kit to school on the days that their class does PE. We have made this decision as part of our commitment to extending the amount of time that children spend doing PE.

Our PE kit remains black joggers/shorts, a white t-shirt (with or without the school logo) and a school jumper or cardigan. If children wish to wear a red hoodie with the school logo as part of their PE kit, they may do so.

If children do not currently have the correct PE kit, they can continue to wear school uniform on PE days. We recognise the coming weeks will be ones of transition, and this new policy may not be fully in place until September 2024. We do hope however that this change will enable us to quickly increase the amount of physical activity being undertaken by children.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 1					
Year 2					
Year 3					
Year 4					
Year 5	5NK & 5AH		Mrs Krull's class	Mr Hope's class	
Year 6					

Parking and driving around our school site

We were very concerned this week to hear about a near miss that occurred outside our school building, when children walking home stepped out from between parked cars.

As well as general reminders about road safety, we have spoken to the children concerned, reminding them of the importance of crossing in a safe space and looking both ways before crossing. We would be very grateful if over this weekend, whether you accompany your children or they walk alone, you could spend some time talking about road safety and how to stay safe especially when crossing roads.

We are aware however that for children the challenge of road safety is exacerbated by cars stopping on the yellow zig-zags, using our staff car park, or turning in our entrance way.

We have spoken to the PCSO team to ask them for their support in enforcing the traffic violations and encouraging those dropping off and picking up to do so responsibly. For the safety of everyone, please can we ask that you do not -

- use the private staff car park unless you have a disabled badge,
- turn in the entrance gates,
- stop on the yellow zig-zags (even if you are dropping at or picking up from ABC),
- use the residential roads or the doctor's car park.

Please also remember that the speed limit is 20mph on all the roads around the school.

If you can, please walk, scoot, or cycle to school – better for you and better for the planet.

Loving, learning and flourishing in Community