

# Newsletter

## News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

It was a great personal pleasure to once again be leading your children in Collective Worship on Monday. Together we continued our thoughts on our Value for January of Trust.

We read the well-known story of David and Goliath. Goliath is huge and has all the gear, daily he threatens the Israelite army and no-one dares take him on. David is a young shepherd boy, with no armour and no military might, but he does have the experience of protecting his sheep and courage to be himself.

David uses his shepherd's sling to kill Goliath and the enemy army flee in disarray.

David had the courage to be himself and he trusted that God would help him.

Together we thought about how it can be hard to be yourself, especially when everyone looks and behaves differently. It is however the joy of being a community, that each of us brings something different and enriches and blesses those around by being who we are. We do not need to be something, or someone different – who we are is good enough!

As well as having the courage to be himself, David trusted God. He believed that God could use him to defeat Goliath, even though Goliath was bigger, stronger, older and fiercer than he was. And David was proved right, his God did use him to defeat Goliath, David's trust was well placed.

There are times when each of us face seemingly insurmountable obstacles, challenges that look very much like Goliath, big, scary and very noisy! Christians believe that if we trust in God, he is able to help us, just as he helped David, to face the difficulty before us. I think that sometimes, having a bit more courage to be the person we were made to be, to use the gifts and talents that we have been given, even where they seem quite ordinary, can make all the difference to how we manage the challenges of each day.

This weekend I hope you see your children being more like David, celebrating who they are, because who they are is great!

## Drains

Thank you to you all for bearing with the uncertainty regarding the flooding on the school site overnight yesterday.

ODST is going to add their weight to ours in pressing various agencies to take action to prevent the repeated flooding that we are experiencing as a result of issues with the Thames Water foul drain.

At the moment there does not appear to be a quick fix, but please be assured that we are doing all we can.

## Values Awards



Well done everyone! Well-deserved awards.

## News from Around the School

The children in Year 4 have this week been having a wonderful time painting Roman shields. The children designed their shields and then turned their designs into reality – we think they look very impressive. The children have been learning about how the shields were used to protect not just individuals but whole groups of soldiers.





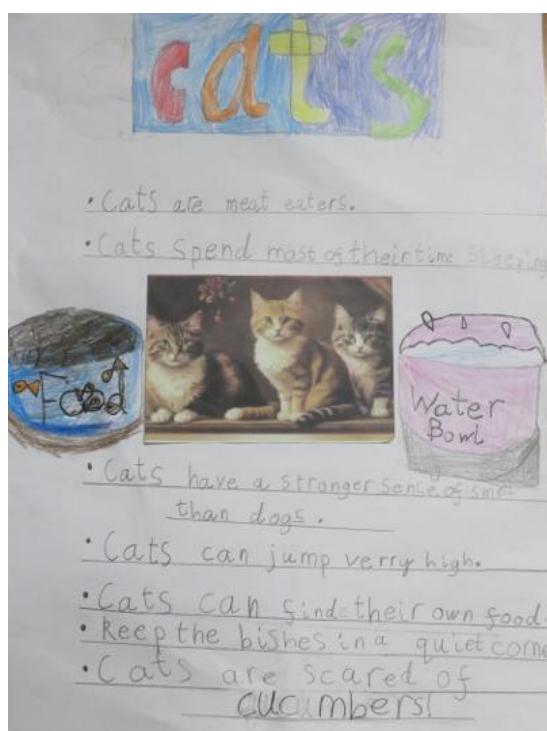
## Term Dates

As promised, our term dates for the academic year 2026/27 are now available on our website.

Please do book holidays outside of term time as we are not permitted to authorise absences taken when children should be in school.

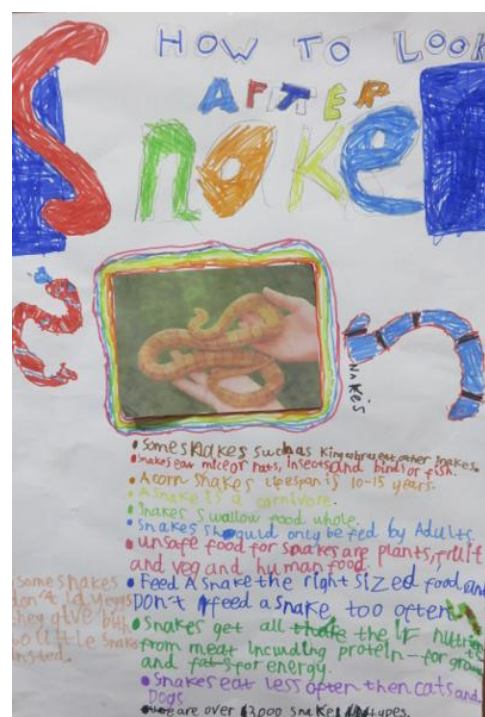


## More News from Around the School



The children in Year 3 have been thinking about how to care for pet animals.

They have worked really hard to create bright and clear posters demonstrating that they know how to look after their pets and how to keep them healthy.



**Loving, learning and flourishing in community**