

Newsletter

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

In Collective Worship this week, I read the children the story of the 'Library Lion' by Michelle Knudsen. It is one of my favourite stories, beautifully illustrated, simple and yet compelling in the message it conveys. The book tells of the conflict between obeying the rules and when a rule should be broken.

As we continued to think about our Value of Goodness, the story helped us think about when displaying that Value may mean obeying a different set of rules.

The Old Testament set out a very clear set of rules for when people had wronged others. 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But Jesus, in the New Testament, told his followers that he had come to bring a new set of rules. It was Gandhi that said,

'An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind.'

And so, in Collective Worship we thought about a new set of rules, rules that reflect the way that Jesus chose to live his life and that he encouraged others to live their lives by also. The Book of Romans puts it like this –

'Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.'

We all agreed that the New Testament rule was a lot harder to live by than the Old Testament one! It can be extraordinarily hard to show Goodness in the face of rudeness, hate, unkindness and hurt.

In school we are trying to live by a different set of rules, recognising along with Gandhi that paying someone back for the pain they have caused you by inflicting exactly the same kind of pain on them simply leaves everyone in the same boat. Living that way 'makes the whole world blind'.

In trying to overcome evil with good, we need the help of one another. Showing Goodness when we are the ones that have been hurt is rarely something we can achieve on our own, we need the encouragement and support of those around us. It is one of the reasons why we need our community around us, cheering us on and encouraging us.

Another translation of the Romans Bible verse says, 'Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.' I find that translation very helpful. When we are faced with hard and difficult things, we can seek revenge/payback, we can allow the evil to conquer us, it is perhaps our most natural reaction. However, choosing to do good, to show Goodness, brings about a change for us and for our community, it conquers evil.

This week, the challenge for all of us in school is not to give back the hurt that we have received, but instead to show Goodness. As the Library Lion found out, sometimes there are different rules that are even more important!

Values Awards

This week, we had great pleasure in awarding Values certificates to children who had chosen to show our Values even when it was particularly challenging. Well done to them all, their actions are making our community a better place for all of us.



Extending the school day

Earlier this year the government announced their intention to require schools to remain open for 32.5 hours each week, a school day of 6.5 hours.

Our school day is currently 6.25 hours and therefore from September we will be increasing the length of our school day by 15 minutes.

This means that from September our school doors will open at 8.40am, with registers being taken at 8.50am. Children arriving after 8.50am will need to come into the school via the front office. Our ABC breakfast provision will therefore also start ten minutes earlier, at 7.40am.

At the end of the school day, doors will open at 3.20pm.

We will send further reminders regarding this ready for the new academic year.

News from Around the School

This week, the children in our Nurture Base spent a very peaceful afternoon out and about our school site using their senses and thinking about the natural world around them. The children then used natural materials to make some mindfulness crowns, reminding them to take time to pause and take a deep breath. Several staff confided that they felt they could do with a mindfulness crown too!



More News from Around the School

Today, the children in Year 5 enjoyed a visit from the 'animal man', Ranger Stu. The children learned lots about the animals and had a wonderful time getting close to them.



Classes for September 2023

On Friday afternoon, all the children were told the name of their class teacher for September. Children will have the opportunity to visit their new classes on the morning of Monday 3rd July.

Mrs Rump's children will be taught by Miss Hallowell

Mrs O'Connor's children will be taught by Miss Hinkins

The children in Year 1 will be taught by Mrs Castree/Mrs Rowlands and Mrs Piper, their classes are mixing.

Mrs Castree's children will be taught by Mrs Hayes

Miss Hinkins' children will be taught by Mrs Lynch/Mrs Parry

Mrs Usher-Wilson's class will be taught by Miss Fletcher

The children in our Nurture Base will continue to be taught by Mrs Ker

The children in Year 4 will be taught by Mrs Krull and Mr Hope/Mrs Raven, their classes are mixing.

Mrs Powell and Mrs Krull's children will be taught by Mr Walker

Mrs Hayes' children will be taught by Mrs Henderson

It has also been a great pleasure to start welcoming to school the children who will be joining our Early Years classes in September. From September our Early Years' classes will be taught by Mrs Fuller and Mrs O'Connor.

Thank-you

Thank you to everyone who sent their child in with a donation this morning – we will announce the total raised next week.

Your donation will help 'The Friends' as they seek to raise money for IT equipment that will be used across the school.

Your child will very soon be bringing home information about how their class is getting involved in the school fete, which is taking place after school on 7th July.

Please do get involved where you can and then stay around after school on 7th to enjoy time with friends, listen to the choir, enjoy looking around our stalls and help us raise money for the school.

*Loving, learning
and flourishing in
community*

Events coming up

Next week will be especially busy for our children in Year 6 who on Tuesday will be joining with children in Years 4 and 5 for sports day and then on Wednesday and Thursday will be performing 'Oliver' to their parents.

Parents and other family members are welcome to come and watch sports on the field from 9.30am.

Sports day for children in the lower half of the school will take place on Tuesday 4th July, also starting at 9.30am.

School will be closed to all children on Wednesday 5th July as this is a day of strike action.

If your child is involved in the carnival, do look out for more information coming from Mrs Castree to make sure you have all the details you need for the event.