

# Newsletter

## News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

As we welcomed the children back to school after half-term, we started to look at our Value for June, Goodness.

It was great fun, at the start of Collective Worship, to listen to all the things that had been 'good' about the half-term week. It was a reminder of precious opportunities to do things that bless us and one another.

We spent the majority of our time in Collective Worship thinking about creation. We read together the creation story from Genesis chapter 1 and the beginning of chapter 2. As well as doing our very best to remember what was created and in what order, we took time to notice how often the Bible records, 'And God saw that it was good.'

On a warm and sunny day such as today, it is easy to look at creation all around us and to echo God's view – creation is good. We are very blessed to live in a beautiful world, full of colour and variety and though Oxfordshire may not have mountains or sea, there is still great beauty to be enjoyed. In the creation story, God reflects at the end of each day that 'it was good'; it is a habit that we would I think do well to try and establish for ourselves. As I shared with staff today, if you look for goodness, you will always find it and so pausing at the end of each day to reflect on the goodness we have experienced will surely inspire and encourage us.

As we head into this very busy last term of the academic year, where there is lots to organise and fit in, it is my prayer that goodness will continue to characterise our interactions with one another and our life as a community.

As we thought about the beauty of creation, we reflected that it is a good gift, from God to us. As we look further at Goodness in the weeks to come, we will be thinking about how the goodness that we are shown, including from God, is what inspires and enables us to show goodness ourselves.

It was a real joy to join with the whole school community today for our school photo. As soon as the link is available for you to view the photo (and order if you wish to), we will share it with you. The photo, like our weekly Collective Worship session, was a reminder that we are community. Goodness is at the heart of flourishing communities, it affects the way we think about and treat one another. Even as children and staff supported one another in the organisation of today's photo, goodness was clearly evident.

Rather than sharing with you photographs from around the school this week, I hope you will enjoy looking at the pictures from 'The Wild Walk' that took place at the end of last term. My enormous thanks to everyone from The Friends who was involved in planning, fruit chopping, supporting children and counting cash. I am delighted to share with you that a truly phenomenal total of almost £4,000 was raised by your children. That money will make an enormous difference to your children as we seek to update our IT equipment. Thank you to everyone for being part of the wonderful event.

*Loving, learning and flourishing in community*