

Newsletter

News from Mrs Patchett

In Collective Worship on Monday we thought about the story of Joseph. You can read the full story of Joseph in Genesis chapters 37 and 39-50.

Joseph was mistreated by his brothers and sold into slavery. Many years later when famine swept the land, Joseph's brothers were forced to seek aid and in so doing they once again came face to face with the brother they had so badly mistreated. The brothers' actions had led to Joseph being a slave, being imprisoned and missing out on years with his family.

We talked about how we would have felt if we were Joseph and the conflicting emotions that we would have experienced. We all agreed that forgiveness would have been very hard for Joseph, even though he would have been so pleased to see his father again.

As it was for Joseph, so forgiveness can be for us, a very costly thing. The Christian story of Easter is a reminder of the cost that our wrongdoings had on Jesus – putting things right with God led Jesus to death on the cross.

Forgiveness sets us and others free, it may be costly, but it can also be life-changing.

Wishing you all a peaceful and refreshing Easter. We look forward to seeing your children back in school on Tuesday 22nd April.

Values Awards

Well done to all the children who received Values Awards this week – they are all incredible!



News from Rev Matt Beer

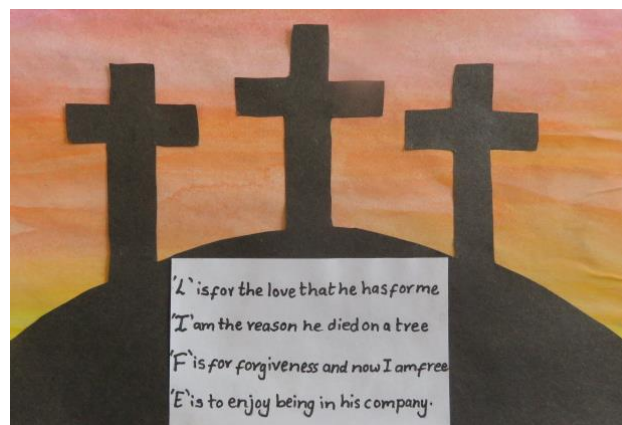
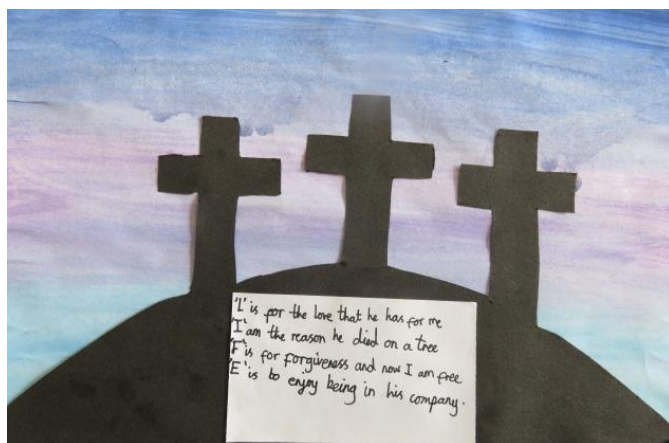
Easter is a time that we all look forward to. The weather is beginning to warm up and there are signs of spring all around us. Many of us will be looking forward to a break and maybe even a chocolate egg hunt.

Easter for Christians and for many in our community is about the celebration of Jesus' love for us in laying himself down so that we can come near to him. His sacrifice breaks through our selfishness, distraction, wants and desires, and he meets us where we are. His goodness is revealed to everyone!

So when you seek and find those chocolate eggs remember that the women at the tomb didn't find what they expected, Jesus was alive.

Remember when you break into those eggs that the tomb was broken open and is empty.

When you taste the chocolate, remember God's goodness to you, your families, and the whole Blake School community.



Good-bye and hello

Since January, when Mrs Fuller went on maternity leave, Mrs Charlotte Smith has been a part of the Reception team. We are very grateful to Mrs Smith for joining our team and teaching our children.

After the Easter break, the Reception team will welcome the new Early Years Lead, Mrs Laura Rump. Mrs Rump was previously a teacher at The Blake School and so will be a familiar face to many parents and children.

We are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Rump back to The Blake.

After the Easter break we will also be welcoming Mrs Phoebe Graves to The Blake School. Mrs Graves will be working with the Year 6 team as a Teaching Assistant.

We are currently advertising for a part-time teacher to join our team from September. If you know anyone who might be interested in joining us, please do direct them to our [website](#) where they can find all the details.

Safeguarding

We take our responsibilities to keep your children safe very seriously.

Over the holidays, if you have any concerns about children that you know, or you see something that causes you concern, you can call the local MASH team on 0345 050 7666. If you think a child is in immediate danger you should always call 999.

With more time on their hands over the holidays, please do check your internet settings and make sure parental controls are in place. We recommend setting screen time limits and making sure you have regular discussions about your children's online activity.

Reminders

As always at the end of term, our lost property box is bulging! Please do take time over the Easter break to ensure that all items of clothing and lunch boxes are clearly named.

Please make sure your child is wearing uniform to school, especially on PE days. For PE, children must wear PLAIN black shorts/joggers (no logos) and a PLAIN white t-shirt (no logos) and a school jumper/cardigan/hoodie. If children come without the correct uniform we will be looking to use some of our extensive lost property to give them the right uniform to wear.

It would really help us if you can also take time to check that any outstanding debts on ParentPay have been met. If you are experiencing difficulties in meeting a payment, please do email the office in confidence.

Attendance really matters. Please do make sure that holidays are booked outside of term time. You can find term dates for this year and next [on our website](#). Please also make every effort to make routine appointments outside of the school day.

Our children in Year 6 will be sitting their SATs tests during the week of 12th May. The children are well prepared and can use the week to celebrate all that they have learned.

With the lighter days and warmer weather, we are hoping that more of you will be encouraged to walk, scoot or cycle to school. If you really need to bring the car, remember that it is an offence to park on the yellow zig-zags. Please do not park on the neighbouring residential roads, or in the Drs' car park. Unlike any of the other Witney schools we have a large car park that we can use, please be patient and wait for a space to become available if there are no spaces when you first arrive. Thank-you.

News from Around the School

Our children in Years 3 and 4 this week put on an amazing performance of Practically Perfect. The children performed with confidence and enthusiasm, it was a wonderful opportunity to see children shine outside of the classroom. Well done to all the children and to the staff team who supported them – everyone was supercalafragalisticxpealedocious!





Loving, learning and flourishing in community