

# Newsletter

## News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

This week in Collective Worship we reflected on a very famous passage from the Bible, found in Matthew chapter 7. The passage reads –

*'Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?'*

We spent some time thinking about the things that perhaps make us cross in others, but we know that we do too, like when someone mishits a crucial shot in football, and we know that we have missed shots too.

We agreed that there are many times when, unless we pause and think, it is very easy to see something wrong in someone else, without remembering that we have often got it wrong too. We particularly thought about the importance of not talking about people behind their backs when they have made a mistake. Although Collective Worship is often challenging for us as adults, this week it was particularly uncomfortable thinking...

The challenge is for us all to extend grace to one another, to recognise that none of us is beyond making a mistake. Thoughtfulness is taking the time to pause, to reflect that we all need people to forgive our mistakes, to be generous in the way they treat us and to be kind about the sawdust in our eyes.

As this was our last Values-based Collective Worship of the academic year, we also took some time to look back at the Values we have thought about since September. Each of us had a favourite memory as well as being able to recall a particular challenge that we have tried to remember in the classroom, on the playground and in our homes.

This week your children have brought home their reports, summing up the past year, highlighting your child's progress, their strengths and successes, as well as flagging up the challenges that have not yet been mastered and will be tackled afresh in September. The reports reflect how hard your children have worked and the learning that has been mastered. However, as we went back through the Values that we have considered over the year, I shared with the children that many of the jobs that they will do as adults have not yet been even thought of. But, the Values that they are allowing to shape them will enable them to grow into the kind of people that any business would want to employ. Developing Values alongside academic learning will future-proof them – whatever the future looks like!

## Values Awards



Congratulations to all our Values Award winners this week. It was a real pleasure to give an award to Millie for the ways that she has shown thoughtfulness over the past week, as well as to celebrate children who have persevered and shown patience.

As the year draws to a close it is wonderful to reflect on how living our Values has shaped our community.



# News from Out and About

Last Saturday a group of intrepid crayons braved the pouring rain to be part of the Witney Carnival procession. Despite the weather conditions, the children had a wonderful time. Well done to everyone who took part, and thank you to everyone who cheered them round the course.





## News from Around the School

On Thursday, our Year 1 children took part in a wedding at St Mary's Cogges. Everyone dressed up for the occasion, there was a real party atmosphere! Well done to all the children who played their parts so well and thank you to all the families who came and supported them.





## More News from Around the School

On Thursday afternoon, the children in Years 4 and 5 were treated to a wonderful musical treat when Tom Conroy came to perform. It was clear from the clapping and cheering at the end of each piece, as well as the audience participation, that the children really enjoyed what they heard.



We have a very long waiting list for learning to play the piano, but if your child would like to learn a different instrument, please contact the [County Music Service](#) to find out more.

In Collective Worship over recent weeks we have enjoyed listening to children who currently learn instruments in school – there are some very talented musicians! Currently in school children learn the oboe, flute, clarinet, piano, guitar, violin and trombone.



Starting to learn an instrument at primary school opens up all sorts of opportunities when your child moves to secondary school.



## News from our wider community

On this wet and windy Friday, we take a look back to the sunny weather that accompanied Blake Fest last week. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event, we raised a magnificent £1521. Thanks also to staff and The Friends who made the whole thing happen.



Loving, learning and flourishing in community