

End of Term 1 Newsletter

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

The first term of any academic year is always particularly hard work, new relationships are formed, expectations are established and everyone is settling back down into the routines of school. The autumn term is also the longest of the school year, meaning that adults and children alike are all now very ready for the half-term break.

Do congratulate your children on all that they have achieved this term. I hope you enjoyed sharing with your child's teachers all that they have already accomplished and how you can continue to support them as they journey through the coming academic year.

As always this first term also involves some changes and adjustments. Those of you with children who need some additional support may have discussed with teachers changes to Learning Plans, in order that provision can better match need. For other children, this term has given a fresh glimpse into all their potential and changes have been made to ensure that they are stretched and given opportunities to flourish in their learning. Other children have needed changes to their days in order that not only they can learn in school, but also that those around them can experience school as a safe and happy place. Thank you to all of you as you have worked with us as we have made all of these changes over the past weeks, so that as we start Term 2 we will be ready to 'hit the ground running' and children can continue to enjoy all that school has to offer them.

This week in Collective Worship we finished thinking about our Value of Honesty. We read another of my favourite stories together, about the Wemmicks. The story helped us to think together about how different we all are. The story finishes with the woodcarver, who made the Wemmicks, reminding Punchinello that what he thinks matters more than what everyone else thinks. Christians believe that their value is in the fact that God created them and that God's words echo those of the woodcarver to Punchinello, 'You are special because I made you, and I don't make mistakes.'

As we learn to live together in community, it is helpful for us all both to remember that we are all different and that we are all special.

To conclude our thinking about Honesty we summed up all that we have considered in the following four points – we all felt challenged by *at least* one of the points!

Honesty is –

- Being truthful to others
- Being truthful to yourself
- Doing what's right regardless of who's around
- Being someone others can trust

I am delighted to share this newsletter with you, which contains so many photos of your children flourishing in all their different ways, and being given opportunities to learn and explore the curriculum both inside and outside of the classroom. The term has been long, but there has been so much to celebrate and as always your children have risen courageously to the challenges with which they have been presented. I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved and peaceful half-term break.

News from Around the School

Over the past term, our children in Year 2 have been visiting Cogges Farm every Monday. The children have spent some time exploring the far, but have also enjoyed Forest School. We hope the photos below give you a small window into the great fun that has been had by the children over the past six weeks.

Yesterday the whole year group went to say thank you to the Manager of Cogges Farm for letting them use the farm and forest. The children had each created a thank-you card, sharing what they had most enjoyed about the experience. Guy, the Farm Manager was delighted with his cards and invited the children to come back, anytime!





More News from Around the School

Our children in Year 4 have had a great time designing and building lighthouses. Children have worked collaboratively to achieve lighthouses that as well as looking great, shine a light!



Even More News from Around the School

Our children in Year 1 have had a week celebrating all things autumn! They have been out on an autumn walk, done some leaf rubbing, some painting and written some amazing autumn poems.

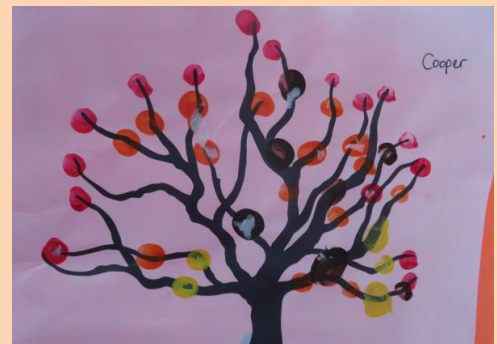
① I see red and gold leaves.
 ② I see a brown Shinee Conker.
 ③ I feel the cold wind.
 ④ I smell byastl Slows.
 I hear brds tweeting in the wind.
 I Smell the wet rayhee Leaves.
 I hear peopl torcing.
 I Smell cones in my hand.
 I hear love Spreading round.

I see red and gold leaves.
 I see a fluffy squirrel.
 I see a fluffy hedgehog.
 I feel the cold wind.
 I hear a birds singing.



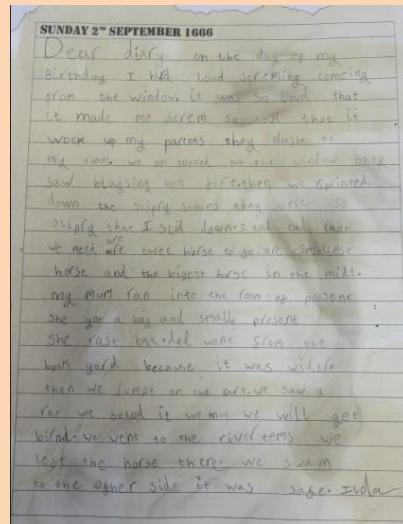
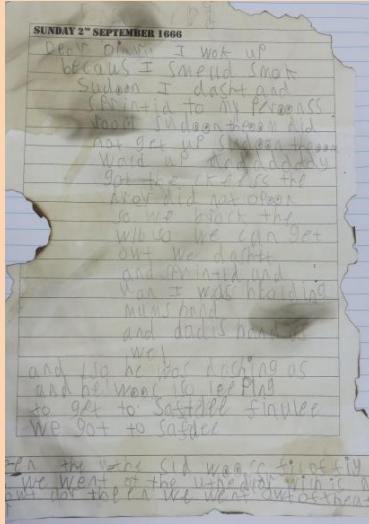
① I see red and gold leaves.
 ② I see a silverer and a silverer and a silverer and a silverer.
 ③ I feel the cold wind.
 ④ I feel worm in my nose in case hee and my cat and my gloves and my see a worm silverer.
 I feel the cold hear leaves crunchin under my shoes.
 I feel leaves mision was sun see leaves.
 I love mision see leaves.

Wednesday 23rd October and Thursday 24th October
 I see red and gold leaves.
 I see Shinee shee and cones.
 I feel the cold wind.
 I smell damp rain.

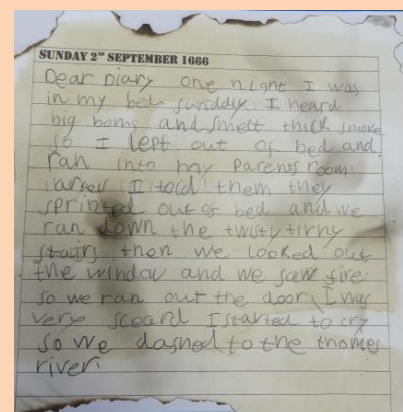
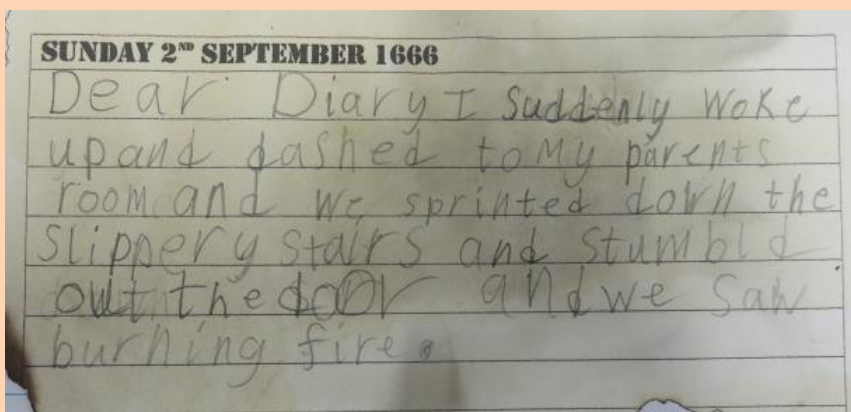
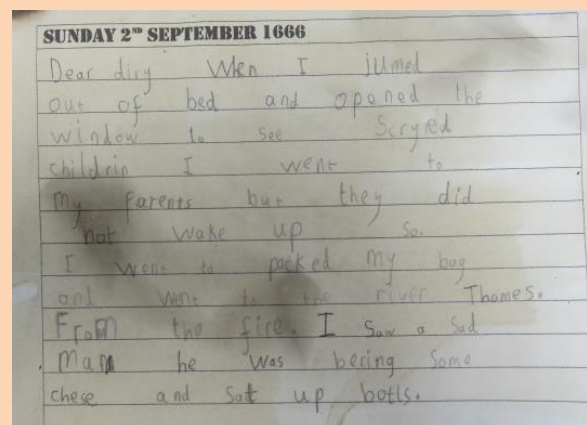
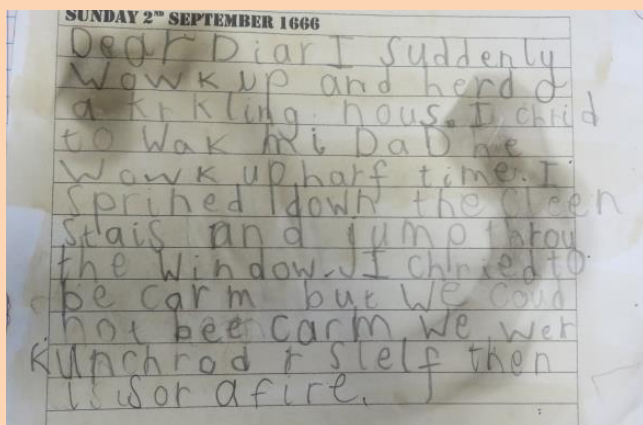


Even More News from Around the School

Our children in Year 2 have had a very busy term learning all about the Great Fire of London. This week children have been making Tudor Houses that after half term will be burned as the houses were during the great fire. The children have also written some very impressive diary entries, reflecting what it was like to be in the middle of the fire.



There were some very interesting smells coming from Year 2 as the children and their grown-ups treated their paper with tea and then burned the edges so that their diary entries look really authentic!



Photos

We have been advised that the photos taken of your children as individuals and as family groups are now available for order. Please use the details that were sent home with your child to order the photos online. There is no deadline for ordering the photos, but for free delivery to school orders must be made by midnight on 7th November 2024.

Values Awards

Congratulations to everyone who this week received a Values Award. As ever, the children recognised are merely representatives of the many children around the school who are seeking to live by our Values – thank you to them all.



Remembrance

After the half-term break we will be selling items in aid of the Royal British Legion Poppy appeal.

Paper poppies will be offered to every classroom each day. If however your child would like any of the items below, they need to send in their money in a named envelope, with a clear description of the item wanted and the colour. We recommend donations of 50p, £1 and £1.50 for the items.



Smartphone survey

Thank you to everyone who has already completed the short Smartphone survey that has been pulled together by one of our parents looking to gather some data about parental reviews regarding the use of Smartphones.

The survey will close after the half-term break, so if you want to have your say, please do take some time over the next week to [complete the survey](#).

Shoebboxes

We are thrilled that so many shoeboxes have been collected by your children and we look forward to your children returning them to school after half-term, filled with small items that will bless children in other parts of the world this Christmas.

The deadline for returning filled shoeboxes to school is Friday 8th November.

If you are not able to fill a box, but would love to contribute something, we have a large box in school where single items can be donated. The items will then be used to create full more full shoeboxes.

School admin

Over the half-term break, please can we remind you to check your ParentPay account for any outstanding items. Payment for trips, swimming and special events all need to be made via ParentPay. Whilst payments are voluntary, if not enough donations are received we will not be able to run events in the future.

Don't forget that meals for after the half-term break need to be ordered by midnight on Thursday of this week.

If you have a spare moment, please check uniform/water bottles and snack pots are all named! Thank you.

Wishing you all a peaceful and restful half-term break! We look forward to seeing all children back in school on Tuesday 5th November.

Loving, learning and flourishing in community