

Newsletter

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

In Collective Worship yesterday, I thought with the children about the parable of the talents. In the story Jesus told, a Master gave ten of his servants a bag of gold each and then he went away. Each servant was charged by their Master with taking care of the gold until he should return. When the Master returns some time later each servant is asked to report on what they have done with their gold. The first one reports that he has used his bag of gold to make ten more, another reports that from his bag of gold he has generated five more, but the last servant was afraid. That individual hid the gold so that he would not lose it, he was afraid of taking a risk.

Talking to the children I reminded them that it does not matter what we have been given, it does not matter what our level of responsibility is, what matters is that we do not let fear stop us. We may feel challenged by the level of responsibility that we have, and we may fear making mistakes, but each of us has a role to play. Responsibility is about stepping up, even when we are afraid, it is about making good choices and reflecting on how the values that we hold inform our thinking and our actions.

I would like to thank you as parents for all your support over the past term. It is always such an encouragement to hear your feedback and positive comments. In a term in which we have had significant positive Covid-19 cases, amongst children and staff, we as a staff team have really appreciated your consistent and measured interactions with us. I am delighted to be able to say that as term ends we have almost no Covid-19 cases in school and all those who have been affected during the term are now back in school and fully well. Thank you for your support as we have had to adjust staffing in particular and a special well done to those of you who once again had to embrace a period of remote learning!

This week I walked around the school with a governor who, owing to lockdown, has not been in the school for eighteen months. It was a joy to show her all that your children are doing and to receive her comments about the 'busy and happy' school atmosphere. Your children have worked so hard this term, they really have put their fears aside and embraced new learning and new challenges. I hope that you have found the parents evenings of the past couple of weeks a really helpful occasion to understand your child's strengths and the areas that they are still working on. Please do congratulate your children on all their work over the past term, they have embraced the challenges presented to them and we are thrilled to see them flourish as a result.

I would like to wish you all a peaceful half-term break. I look forward to welcoming your children back in school on Monday 1st November 2021.

Over the past couple of weeks there have been some special days across the school.

- Year 5 enjoyed a Greek Day, where they learned all about what it was like in Ancient Greece.
- Children in Year 4 have been into Witney to celebrate harvest at the Methodist Church.
- Year 3 has been celebrating all things Roald Dahl today.
- Children in Year 1 have been on an autumnal walk.



