

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

What a great week! It has been absolutely wonderful to have all your children back in school. Wherever I have been in school I have heard children chattering and laughing and it has been fantastic!

Across the school, teachers have reported that children are really keen to get back to their learning and I have certainly seen some great work this week. It gives me equal pleasure to celebrate with a child in Reception who over lockdown has learned to write her name as with a Year 5 child producing a complex piece of written work. I am incredibly proud of your children. In the face of the enormous challenges of the start of this year, they have shown resilience and optimism. They are incredible.

I would like to reiterate what I said last week, that none of this would have been possible without your sacrifice and hard work. Thank you for all that you gave over lockdown, for the good of us all.

In Collective Worship this week we paused our reflections on Forgiveness and Lent in order to remember that God never changes. In a week that has seen enormous changes for your children, it was helpful to be reminded that whatever the changes all around us, however unsettled or anxious we may feel, God's love for us is never changing and never ending.

We are continuing to provide extra settling activities for your children and wherever necessary we have adjusted our timetable and used adults within bubbles to provide additional nurture and support.

The pandemic is not over and we know there may yet be challenges ahead but as we hold on to God's faithfulness and enjoy being together again as a community, there is cause to celebrate this weekend.



Thank you to our cleaners

Our cleaning team (Ann, Charlotte, Sophie and Sadie) are very much our hidden team members, but they are no less valued!

Every day, once your children have gone home, our team of cleaners come into school and right across the school they Hoover, mop, wipe, sweep and sanitise. Bins are emptied, toilets are cleaned, windows are shut and gates are locked.

We are always enormously grateful to our team of cleaners, but during this Covid-19 season we are even more so.

Through this season our cleaners are not only carrying out all of their usual cleaning tasks but they are also making sure that shared spaces, equipment and door handles are cleaned and sanitised. Cleaners are also required to wear aprons and masks, adding even more challenge to their work.



Alongside our cleaning team, our Site Manager Tash and our lunchtime supervisors also spend some of their time cleaning and sanitising. We are so grateful for their work too.

Ensuring that every inch of our school site is clean is a critical part of remaining Covid-19 secure and increasing the chances of us staying open to all children.

News from around the school

Year 6 have not wasted anytime this week and have produced some great work on Vikings. The children began learning about the Vikings during lockdown and have continued this week, thinking especially about shields. Did you know a Viking shield was often a metre in diameter and as well as using them for protection, they also used them to carry the injured off the battlefield?



We love the detailed drawings that the Year 6 children have produced.



Viking shields always used very particular colours.



In RE, children have been thinking about Lent, this paperchain has helped them think more about how Christians mark Lent.

Our School library – a book amnesty!

Across the school, we encourage and promote reading. It is a fundamental skill that opens the door to so much else, as well as being one of life's great pleasures.

We are thrilled that a member of our parent body has volunteered to commit to tidying, sorting and cataloguing our library books in order that as restrictions ease, we can once again invite children to enjoy this quiet space in the heart of our school.

At the moment, a whopping 412 of our library books are out on loan! If you have any of these, please do send them back into school – we will not be issuing any fines or penalties and no questions will be asked!

We are also hoping to add some new books to our library. So, if you are having a spring clear out and have any really good quality books that you think would be a great addition to our school library, please do send them into school.

World Book Day

This week, every child should have brought home a £1 token, issued as part of World Book Day. These tokens cannot be spent online, but the deadline for spending them in shops has been extended.

You can find out more about how to spend your token by reading the [FAQs](#) on the World Book Day website.

We would encourage you to enjoy spending the voucher with your child, it is a great opportunity to choose something that you can enjoy reading together.

Comic Relief

This year, [Red Nose Day](#) is taking place on Friday 19th March.

As usual we will want to be supporting this very worthwhile charity and will be doing so by encouraging the children to come to school in their ordinary clothes for a donation to Comic Relief.

We will also be encouraging every child to come to school with a joke. Children can enjoy sharing these within their classes, but we hope to film the best jokes and will share some of them with you.

Are we nearly here yet?

Are we nearly here yet is a book by Richard Robinson, director of the Brighton Science Festival. The book is the story of the nutty universe, looking at the crazy journey of 14 million years!

Every Saturday morning, for just £1, you can join in a Zoom show and find out more about the universe of which we are a part. [Find out more here.](#)

Excel tennis

Easter courses are running again this year, in small groups to help with social distancing.

Children aged between 4 and 16 are being offered a 10% discount to attend the courses being run over both full weeks of the Easter break.

Weekly term time lessons are also re-starting after 29th March.

Find out more on their [website](#).

Share A Smile Give Us A Joke!

Help us bring some joy for

Comic Relief.

YOU could be on BBC Radio and even BBC One!

IT'S SIMPLE

STEP 1: Think of your most **HILARIOUS** joke.

STEP 2: **Video** yourself telling it.

STEP 3: **Upload** it to us 

STEP 4: Wait to see if your joke makes it onto BBC Radio Oxford.

The funniest will be played on **National TV!**

activeCamps

School holiday multi-activity camp
for children aged 3-14!
8:15am-6pm

Summer Fields & Rye St Antony 29 March - 16 April



Available for all children where childcare is needed to enable parents or carers to work, seek work, attend education, seek medical care or attend a support group. Vulnerable children can attend our settings regardless of circumstance.

www.active-camps.com
or call 01865 594325



Oxford Active is really keen to offer children the chance to get outside and get active over the Easter break. If you are interested in giving your children the chance to socialise with others and enjoy whole days of activity, then do look at their [website](#) for more details.