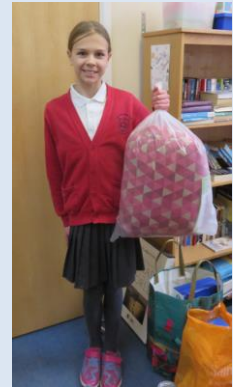


# Newsletter



Jesus said 'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

Jesus replied, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25 verses 31 - 40



*Loving, learning and flourishing in community*

Today, our school community has come together to give to those in Ukraine whose lives have been turned upside down. Thank you for your generosity; as a staff team we have been truly humbled by it.

We are also grateful to members of St Mary's Church, Cogges, who are (bit by bit) transferring car loads over to the main collection point in Carterton.

This morning as the children sang in Collective Worship 'When I needed a neighbour were you there, were you there?', the bags and boxes that had flowed into school just moments earlier, provided the answer.

This week in Collective Worship we began to think about our new Value of the Month, Mercy. Together we thought about Zacchaeus, whose job as a Tax Collector meant that he was hated and ignored. He was a cheat and a thief. Jesus however showed him Mercy, he spoke to him, befriended him and visited his home. The effect was transformational. Zacchaeus turned his life around, he gave back to those he had cheated, not just what he had taken, but four times as much.

As we continue to look at Mercy through this month, we will be thinking together about how it can change lives. Your donations to the people of Ukraine have today been a demonstration of Mercy that will change lives, an answer to their prayers for help. On their behalf, **thank-you**.

## News from Around the School

It has been a very busy week in school this week. Children have been involved in three different sport's events, U11 girl's football, U11 boy's football and Boccia.

Our teams all performed really well, showing great sportsmanship and playing to the very best of their ability. Special thanks to Mr Noble who is organising the events and to Mr Morris who referred the boys' game, which was played at The Blake School.

A report from the boys' football is below, we will find out more about the girls' football in the newsletter next week.

Last Saturday, the school choir sang at The Chipping Norton Music Festival. They sang brilliantly and with such enthusiasm and were awarded a distinction. The adjudicator made the following comments -

*'Fabulous masks and actions. Positive part singing and really good harmonies. Super soloists and excellent accompaniment. Lots of energy and a very enjoyable performance - well done!'*

Thank you to the parents and carers of choir members for their help and support and well done to the choir for bringing a smile to the faces of the audience.

We really enjoyed the choir singing in Collective Worship too!

## News from ODS

On Tuesday, Victoria Woods, who is our ODS School Improvement Adviser, came to visit The Blake.

Victoria is the Head at an ODS School in Banbury and so she brings with her the perspective of Headship, as well as ODS.

Victoria spent the morning in school. She met with senior leaders and teachers, she walked all around the school and looked in children's books.

After almost two years of ODS monitoring taking place remotely, it was wonderful to welcome Victoria into school in person.

At the end of the morning, Victoria spoke very positively about all that she had seen and she is looking forward to coming back for another visit later in the term.









Boccia is a Paralympic sport similar to Bowls and designed for adults with neurological disabilities. In schools it can be enjoyed by everyone but competitions and matches are limited to children with a learning or physical disability. As this was our first competition, we knew it would be tough. But we were amazed to see how quickly our players picked up how to play.

We are looking forward to taking part in the Witney Schools Boccia League over the next few weeks.

To find out more about Boccia, follow the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2nXhoc2OE-g>



On 10th March, the boys' football team played their first league match in over two years. It was a close match with a strong performance by The Blake. We started well, slotting in an early goal. The lead changed hands throughout the match but when the final whistle blew, the team from Ducklington School came away 6-4 winners. Ducklington chose Harry Clarke (far right) as our player of the match. We are looking forward to our next match on 15th March against Hailey.



Our children in Reception have also been very busy in PE, together they have been practising their climbing and balancing. The children were very patient waiting for one another and celebrating when they managed to do something new. Great work!

