News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

With the Easter holidays falling entirely during April, we have had less time than usual this month to think about our Value of the Month, Courage. I am therefore particularly delighted that the value for next month is Perseverance. This will allow us to continue to think about Courage as it is very often linked to Perseverance.

Sometimes your children show one bold act of courage, they try something new, take a risk answering a question or initiate a conversation but more often than not their courage requires perseverance. Whether at school, or at home, courage often has to be shown time and time again. Learning to ride a bike takes courage and perseverance, doing the right thing not just once but again and again takes perseverance.

Children are often better at this than adults, they have much to teach us about both courage and perseverance. Perhaps over the weekend you can compare how many times over the past week each member of your family has shown courage and perseverance?

Looking at the photos of the children who have been at Forest School this week, it is clear that courage can often lead to the joy of success. Sometimes however we need not just courage for the initial challenge but courage to pick ourselves up and try again. The Christian imagery of courage is clear that we are not on our own, but that God stands with us in whatever the challenge we face. The knowledge of God with us not only gives us courage once, but courage to keep on going.

I am delighted that our Parents' evenings will be starting next week. If you have not yet booked your appointment, please do so using e-schools (log in via the app or from the front page of our website). I know that staff are looking forward to sharing with you all that your children have been doing, the progress they have made, and what their next steps in learning will be.

I hope you enjoy the long weekend ahead.

Loving, learning and flourishing in community

Congratulations

Last week, we were delighted to hear of the safe arrival of Mrs Nicola Powell's baby. Zachary Nicholas weighed in at 7lbs 4ozs.





Congratulations to both Nicola and her husband Ryan on the birth of Zachary – we hope it will not be too long before we can meet him.

Annual parent survey

Thank you to everyone who has already completed our annual parent/carer survey.

If you have not yet filled in our survey, we would be really grateful if you took some time over the long weekend to do so.

The survey should take you less than five minutes to complete and the results will be used to help reflect on current practice and inform decisions regarding future development priorities.

<u>Click here to</u> <u>take the survey</u>

News from around the school

This week has been a busy week in Reception, with a surprise visit from a Polar explorer! They have also had an Easter egg hunt and been learning all about fish...



















Easter bunnies

Thank-you to everyone who took part in the Easter Bunny Hunt.

The hunt, organised by The Friends, raised a phenomenal £440 for the school.

We would like to express our thanks to The Friends for all their ongoing hard work to raise funds for the school.

100 club draw

This month's draw of the 100 club was drawn by a member of the admin team, in the presence of an independent witness.

This month's lucky number was 35 and the winner was Rachel Freeman.

Congratulations Rachel – we hope you enjoy spending your winnings.

Oxfordshire library services

The Oxfordshire library service would really like to encourage children and their families back into their local libraries or invite them to visit for the first time if they have not been there before.

The library service has produced a <u>fun video</u> to help introduce children to their local library.

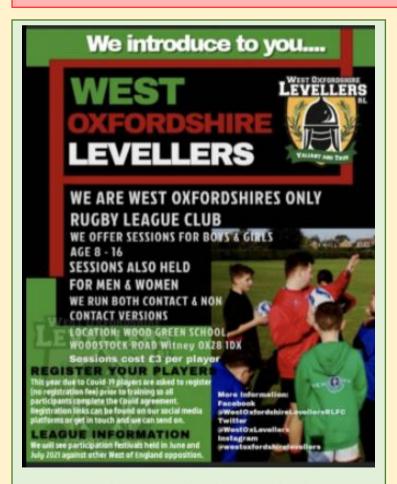
We think libraries are great places, do make use of them with your children.

Primary School Health

In their newsletter this month, the primary health nurses have shared tips for managing constipation, which can often be linked to bedwetting.

To banish constipation for good they recommend –

- Drinking 6 8 water based drinks daily
- Keeping active
- Getting into a good toileting routine
- Eating a balanced diet with fruit and vegetables



Find out more details on Facebook

@WestOxfordshireLevellersRLFC

Lateral flow tests

This week we have received a letter from Kevin Gordon, the Director of Children's Services containing the following information about Covid-19 testing.

"1 in 3 people with COVID-19 do not experience any symptoms and may be spreading the virus unwittingly. Rapid testing detects cases quickly, meaning positive cases can isolate immediately. Since rapid testing was introduced, over 120,000 positive cases that would not have been found otherwise have already been identified by LFDs.

LFD tests are for people who are symptom free and who could be passing it on to others without knowing.

LFD home test kits are for all adults, children and young people who are in secondary school and college. Primary school aged children or younger children are NOT currently part of the Government's LFD testing programme.

Find out how to access test kits for your household.

If you, your child, or anyone in the household has symptoms that could be COVID, no matter how mild, you need to get a PCR test."

Music

We currently have a few spaces for children to learn the piano with our two private music teachers. If your child would like to learn the piano, please contact the school office, who will put you in touch with the teachers.

If your child would like to learn an instrument with the Music Service, flute, clarinet, trombone, cornet, violin, cello or guitar you can find out more about costs and how to sign up for lessons from September 2021 by clicking

<u>here.</u>



Please park safely and considerately

We are very blessed to be able to use the large farm museum car park for parking at drop off and pick up times. For the safety of your children and the wider community, please drive slowly around the school entrance and park in the car park. Please do not park in prohibited areas such as on the yellow zig-zags. If you can, please walk or cycle to school with your children – better for them, better for our world.



If you would like to help support our Year 1 and Year 4 children at Forest School, please do contact the school office – we would love you to come and enjoy the fun!



