

# Newsletter

## News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

This week in Collective Worship we reflected together on a verse from the book of Hebrews –

*'Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.'*

To help us think about this verse we watched some time lapse footage of a seed germinating. The film showed us that it can take more than a whole week for growth to appear above the ground. It is not that nothing is happening, just that you cannot see it. Growth and change are taking place, but that growth takes time, and you must be patient to see even the first tiny bit of a plant above ground.

So it is with us individually and as a community. Day-by-day and week-by-week we consistently apply our values, we seek to live by them and demonstrate them in everything we do. However, change and growth don't happen over-night, even when we are working very hard. We must be patient to see the effect of our actions and decisions, change is taking place even if we cannot see it yet.

And so it is with us all, we need to be patient with one another, we are not 'there' yet, but if we keep going we will see the fruit of our hard work.

We finished Collective Worship by sharing one of my favourite poems, by Jez Alborough, which sums up this message very well. I encourage you to give it a try this weekend!

'Smiling is infectious, you can catch it like the flu.  
When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too.  
I passed around the corner and someone saw my grin.  
When he smiled, I realised I'd passed it on to him.  
I thought about that smile and then I realised its worth.  
A single smile, just like mine, could travel round the earth.  
So if you see a smile begin, don't leave it undetected.  
Let's start an epidemic quick, and get the world infected'

Next week, I am off to Quinta with the Year 6 children and staff. The week will be an excellent opportunity for the children to try new things and to demonstrate our values as they spend an entire week together. Mrs Patchett will be writing the final newsletter of the term next Friday.

## Values Awards

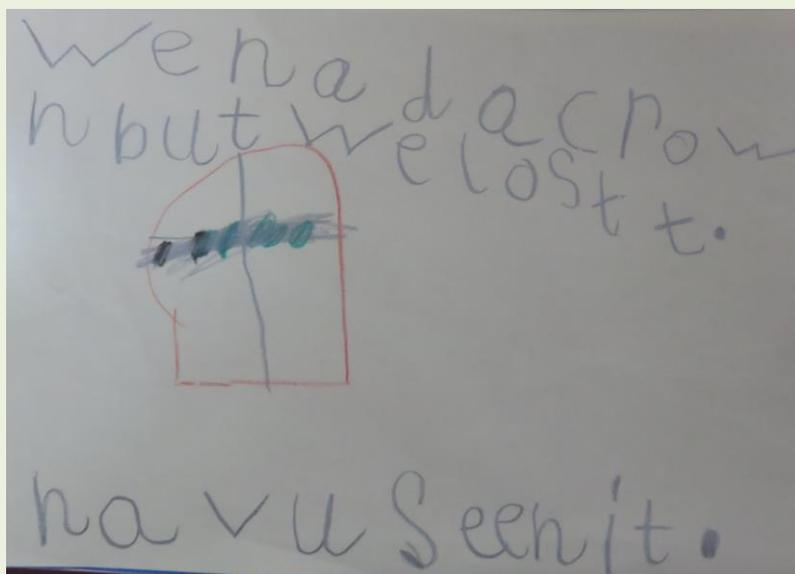
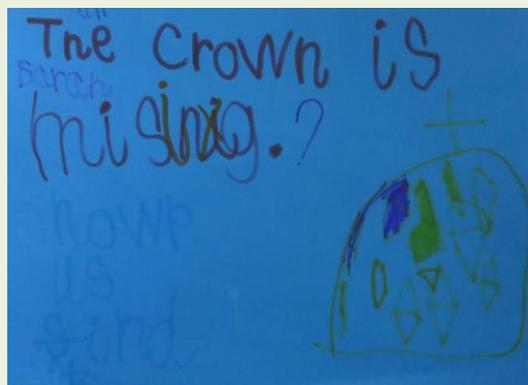
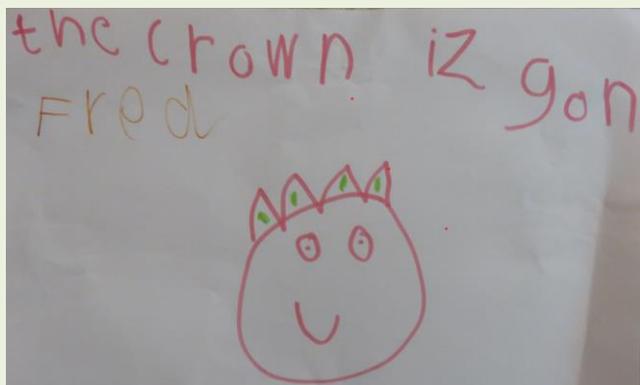
Well done to our Values Awards winners from last week and this week – we are sorry that we cannot share your photograph in our Newsletter. Week by week it is a privilege to recognise children who have gone above and beyond in demonstrating our School Values.

This week we would like to say a particular thank-you and well done to the children and teachers who have welcomed children who have just arrived from Ukraine into their classes. Everything is new for these children, and they are working very hard to learn English too. It has been a joy to see how quickly these new children have been welcomed and made to feel a part of our community.

## News from Around the School

This week the children in our Early Years Unit were given the very important job of looking after the Queen's crown. The crown was delivered to the children amidst great ceremony and their instructions for keeping it safe until Her Majesty needed it read from a scroll.

The following morning however there was disaster as the news of the crown's disappearance spread and posters appeared all round the school. Mercifully the crown was found, it had been locked away for safe-keeping, and was able to be returned safely to the Queen ready for the jubilee celebrations today.



Well done to Georgia who was the winner of our in-school design competition. Georgia's design was sent off to be part of the Witney-wide competition. As a school winner, Georgia's design gets made into a canvas that we will be able to display in school – well done Georgia.



Thank you to everyone who donated cakes, ran stalls, sold raffle tickets and contributed in a myriad of other ways to our celebrations this afternoon. After two years, it was wonderful to be together as a community again.

Thank you to our marvellous kitchen team, who decorated their kitchen to help add to the party feel today. Special thanks to Sadie who baked one of her delicious cakes and decorated it in red, white and blue for the children to eat for dessert today.

We will have a special newsletter on Monday with more pictures from the event and news of how much money was raised. Thank you for supporting the event, it was a really great occasion.



## Quad Kids and Tennis

Well done to the children who took part in Quad Kids (a mixed track and field event) and tennis tournaments this week.

Last week Year 3 took part in Quad Kids, they showed great resilience and several of the children recorded top 20 positions in individual events in a field drawn from all the Witney primary schools.

This week the U11s team had their turn and showed great determination to better their throws and jumps at each attempt. Their team spirit was excellent, especially cheering on their peers during the running events. The children finished a creditable sixth, a great result.



Children from Year 4 went to Wood Green School this week to take part in a tennis tournament against other Witney schools. Many of the children are very new to the game and it was therefore no small achievement that every child who participated won at least one individual game. By the end of the competition, the team had come third, a result to be really proud of.

*Loving, learning and flourishing in community*