

# Newsletter

## News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

This week in Collective Worship, I was reflecting with the children on the story of David and Goliath. It is a story most of us remember from our childhood, it comes with excitement and suspense as well as the joyful final triumph of the small guy over the giant.

In Collective Worship however we were thinking not so much about the battle itself, but rather about what happened just beforehand. David, the young shepherd boy, went to speak to the King, to tell him that he would fight the giant. The King took some persuading, but having few other options, he finally agreed. The King then gave David his tunic and armour, so that he would be well equipped for the anticipated battle ahead.

In the same way that a school jumper was not my size and my coat was too big for the children, the King's armour was not David's size or shape! David knew that he had to be true to himself. David knew that he was not a soldier like the King or his army, but he knew who he was and he knew his own strengths and skills. David defeated Goliath not using the King's weapons and armour, but by drawing on his experience of God being with him and the skills he had developed as a shepherd.

As we thought about what David brought to the battle with Goliath, we reflected together on what we bring to life's hard days and challenges. In school we always refer back to our Values, we use them to help us navigate tricky conversations, to aid our learning and to develop our relationships. Our Values are an integral part of who we are, bit by bit they are shaping us and in turn that shapes the community that we become.

David took Goliath on, on his own, but in school we have each other. In school we can encourage one another when the going gets tough and we can support one another in being true to who we are and holding to our Values. We may not feel up to fighting a giant this weekend, or even next week, but we can take time to reflect on the importance of being true to who we are and to facing whatever comes next with God at our side – just as David did.

## News from Rev Simon Kirby – Vicar of St Mary's Cogges

When you're walking to school have you noticed that there are daffodils beginning to appear on the verges and in people's gardens? Daffodils are the national flower of Wales and 1st March is St David's Day, the patron saint of Wales. (St David's is also the smallest city in Britain and a great answer if you're ever watching Pointless)!

I love seeing daffodils as they are a sign of spring, new life bursting out of the earth. This year St David's Day was also the day before the Christian season of Lent started.

During Lent Christians prepare for Easter, by spending a bit more time praying for themselves and the world and sometimes giving things up as well. Lent also points to the Easter message of hope and new life.

As we look at everything that's going on in our world why don't we take a moment each day to ask God to bring hope and peace at this time?

## News from Around the School

This week has been all about books! After the book swap today it was wonderful to see so many children sitting reading as they waited to be picked up at the end of the day. Reading is such a great pleasure as well as being the key to accessing so much learning.

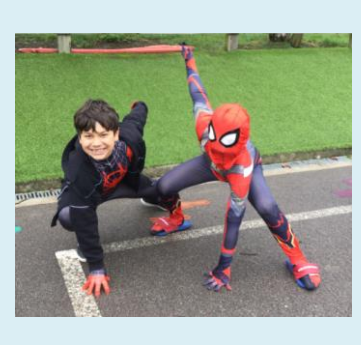
Thank you to everyone who helped their child dress up on Thursday, there were some fantastic costumes. As you look through the photos I wonder if you can tell what book inspired the Year 5 staff team and can you see Tash (dressed as Wally) hiding with our breakfast club children?







A special well done goes to James, who even though he was isolating this week, dressed up to celebrate! Great outfit James!



*Loving, learning and flourishing in community*