

Newsletter

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

In Collective Worship this week we started to look at our new Value for this month, Compassion. To help us think about compassion, we spent a lot of time in Collective Worship thinking about shoes!

As a community we talked about what it means to walk in another's shoes, thinking especially about what our friends might be going through and how we can show compassion to them. It was as much of a challenge for us as adults as it was for the children. Together we read the story of the Good Samaritan and how he helped someone who was injured even though their shoes were very different to his own!

The Good Samaritan could clearly see the need of the man that he helped, the challenges of our friends and colleagues may not always be as obvious. Walking in someone else's shoes is not simply wondering for a moment or two about how they may feel, it is committing to really understanding the impact of the challenges they face, to standing where they are standing.

As we engage with friends and family this weekend, I would encourage each of us to think whose shoes we could try on and what action we might then take as a result.

Goodbye from Mr Morris!

Hello everyone!

I popped into school on Friday morning to say a final farewell to the children during Collective Worship. I thanked them for all the wonderful messages and gifts that they bestowed on me during my final days at the Blake and I wanted to pass the same message on to you, their parents. Some you were kind enough to come and find me on my last day and the lovely comments I received were very touching. Thank you so much.

It has been a huge pleasure to work with your children. They are amazing and I will miss them. As I have many friends among the Blake parents and staff, I still consider myself to be part of the school community, so with a bit of luck I might see you and your children at some point in the future. Thanks again, Mr Morris.

Mr Morris is a very talented artist. As a school community we were very touched to receive the picture below from Mr Morris. The picture captures our community and values well, we are looking forward to hanging it up somewhere that we can all see it every day. The picture will also serve as a reminder of Mr Morris and all that he has given to the school, over many years.

We wish Mr Morris well in his new adventure and we really do hope that he will be a frequent visitor to us.

Thank-you Mr Morris – from all of us!



Values Awards

It was a great start to the new term to begin by celebrating children who have been demonstrating our school Values over the past weeks. Well done to all those children who, despite the challenges, have shown our Values and so little by little brought more of heaven on the earth.



Supporting others at Christmas

The Witney Foodbank is encouraging those who can, to take part in a reverse Advent Calendar. Do support them if you can.



Data sheets

Thank you to everyone, who has already returned their checked and signed data sheets.

Accurate data ensures that in an emergency, we can contact you as quickly as possible.

If you have not yet returned your completed forms, please could you send them back to school next week. Thank you.

Diary dates and reminders

On Monday 14th November we will be encouraging your children to wear odd socks to school. We will be wearing odd socks to celebrate our uniqueness and to mark the start of 'Anti-Bullying Week'.

Later that same week, on Friday 18th November, to mark Children in Need day, children need not wear school uniform, they can come to school wearing spots, or something Pudsey related if they wish to do so. We will be asking children to bring a donation to Children in Need on that day.

On the evening of Friday 25th November, The Friends are running a School Disco. Children in Reception and Years 1-3 will be having their Disco between 4.30 and 5.30pm and children in Years 4 – 6 will be having their Disco between 6 and 7pm. If you can help with either Disco, please contact The Friends on friends@blake.oxon.sch.uk.

Immediately after-school on Thursday 15th December, our wonderful choir will be singing a number of Christmas songs and our Christmas raffle will be drawn. We hope as many of our community as possible will stay to enjoy our choir, get in the Christmas spirit and also help us raise important funds.

Don't forget to return your filled shoeboxes to school no later than Friday 11th November. It is exciting to watch the pile of shoeboxes growing!

If you wish to take part in the 100 club this year (details were sent out earlier this week), please sign up using the [online form](#). This is a very easy way to support the school and potentially find yourself a winner too!

We hope to publish details of our Christmas events very soon, please look out for these.

This term ends at 1.30pm on Tuesday 20th December.

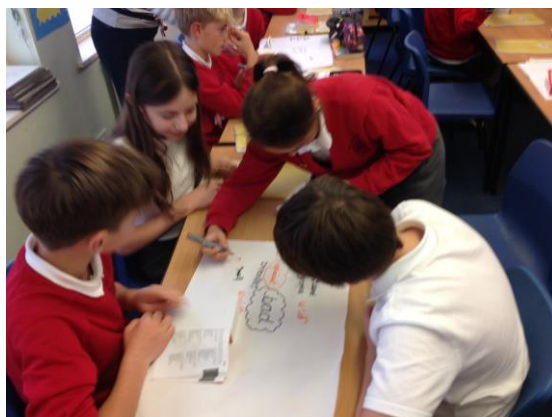
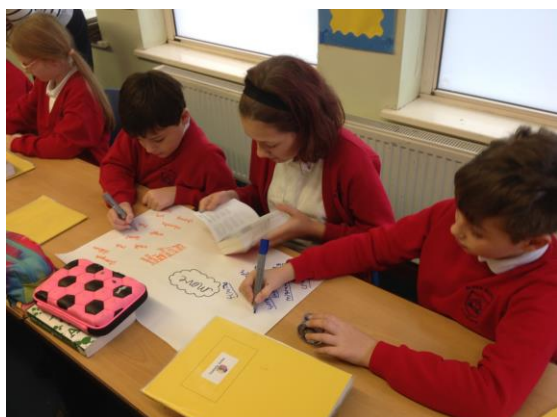
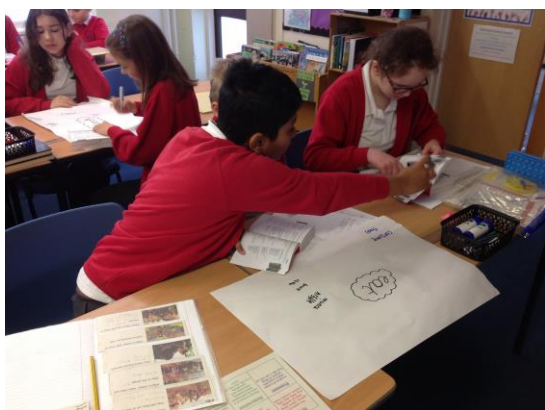
News from Around the School

It has been a busy week for Year 6. In Collective Worship on Friday, it was a real joy to hear them share all about their Quinta residential – they had an amazing time.

In their science lesson this week, the children studied Isaac Newton's theories on light and the colour spectrum. Children then made colour wheels, which demonstrate how the seven colours red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet, form white light. As you can see, the children thoroughly enjoyed creating their own colour wheels and experimenting with the best ways to make their wheels successful.



In Friday's English lesson, Year 6 practised their thesaurus skills and in groups searched for exciting synonyms of key words we may use in our upcoming writing. They did a fantastic job of building a bank of high-quality language as well as working as a team and including each other in the task.



More News from Around the School

The Year 1 children were rightly very proud of their firework pictures this week. Their artwork is colourful and shows how carefully they had looked at the shapes that fireworks make. We also love the writing that they have done to accompany their art. We do hope the children enjoy seeing fireworks this weekend. If you are planning or attending any event over the next few days, please obey the 'Fireworks Code' and stay safe around bonfires.



Loving, learning and flourishing in community