

News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

Today marks the end of a term where our Value of the Month has felt particularly apt! This term has required Perseverance from children, staff and yourselves. So, I would like to begin by saying well done.

Well done to the whole staff team, who continue to work hard to ensure the safety and wellbeing of your children alongside providing fun, creative and challenging learning.

Well done to the children, who even on this, the last day of term, were continuing to concentrate, challenge themselves in their learning and produce some really great work.

Well done to yourselves, who despite the challenges that you face and the ongoing restrictions with which we live, continue to do all you can to support and encourage your children as they grow and develop.

Perseverance looks different for each of us. Some of us will take to something new 'like a duck to water', whereas others of us will need much longer to learn. Some of us are creative, others of us better with numbers, some of us are agile, others musical. It is one of the great joys of a community such as The Blake, that we are all different, each unique. As a community we can support one another, where one struggles another can help.

I was reflecting this week on a passage in Ecclesiastes 4 that puts this well –

'Two are better than one... if either of them falls down, one can help the other up.'

As we persevere together, we can help one another, we are not alone. If you are finding something hard, seek support from someone else. If your children are needing to persevere, encourage them and assure them that there are others around to help and support them.

It is my prayer that as a community we will always seek to help one another up, because it is my belief that we really are better together.

**Loving, learning and
flourishing in community.**

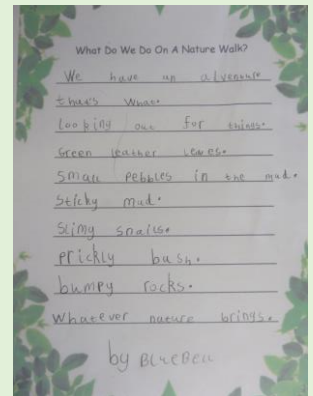
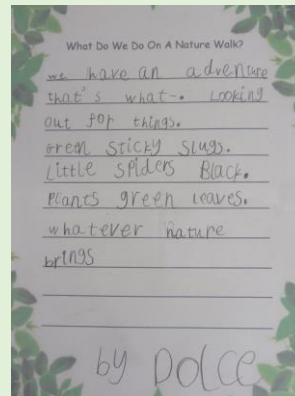
Well done everyone

This week, we could not choose the work from one particular year group. Everywhere we looked around the school there were great examples of children's work.

In Year 1 we were really impressed by their gingerbread man puppets, which they sewed themselves and then used to tell stories.



We were also amazed by the beautiful writing of their poems about a nature walk.

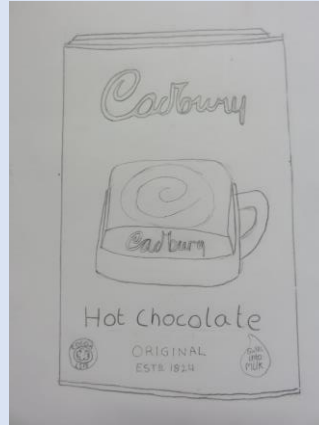
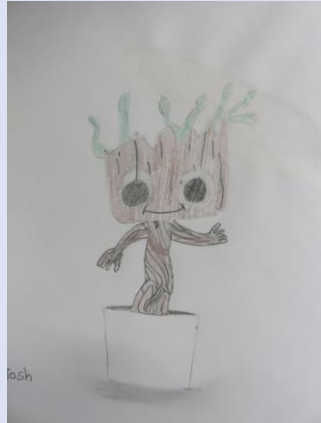
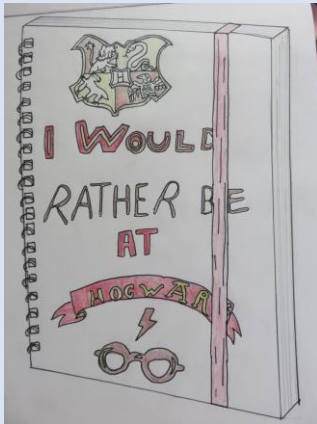


The school was covered in posters earlier this week, created by the children in Reception. The children had been looking after the Queen's crown, which was then lost...! Happily, their poster campaign was successful, the crown was found, and it has now been safely returned to Her Majesty. Well done, Reception.

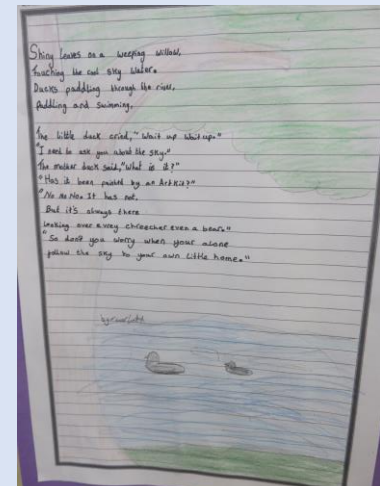
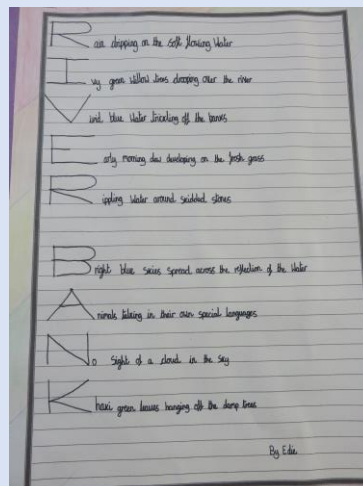


News from around the school

Year 6 have done some incredible observational drawings this week, you can see how carefully the children looked and how they took their time to ensure all the details were accurately captured.



We also loved the poems that they have been writing about the Riverbank, as part of their work on 'The Wind in the Willows'.



Congratulations to our girls footballers

On Tuesday 25th May, the Year 6 girl's football team played against five other Witney primary schools at the Witney ATP.

The girls had grown in confidence and played really well as a team.

They were so proud to represent their school and to come third! Well done girls.



Little journal – family wellbeing

Martin Thomas, a local children's author, has just launched an online Little Journal, which is packed with creative videos and downloadable resources for all the family – especially for those aged 4-9! We have been offered a special launch offer discount plus 30 days FREE trial. It's really easy for you to take up this offer. All you need to do is go to: · www.martinthomas.uk/witney

The Little Journal looks great and is designed to increase your family's wellbeing this summer and have great fun at the same time... so please enjoy and let us know how you get on!

100 club draw

The Friends' 100 club draw for this month was drawn by a member of the admin team in the presence of an independent witness.

Ticket number 3 was drawn belonging to Nichola Cayley.

Well done Nichola, we hope £49.50 buys you a lovely half-term treat!

Talking therapies for adults

Even with the lockdown easing, it is still really important to take the time to care for yourselves. TalkingSpace Plus is a free, confidential NHS service for adults in Oxfordshire, to help people when they're feeling stressed, anxious or low and they offer treatments online for your safety and convenience. If you feel you would benefit from support, please contact the service directly on 01865 901222 or visit www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/talkingspaceplus

Design a banner

Today, Miss Robertson and Mr Edwards-Grundy had the very difficult job of judging the designs for the new banner for the front of the school.

Three finalists have been shortlisted. They will be given some suggestions regarding their banners and then asked to re-submit their designs, before a second judging.

Congratulations to the following children, whose designs were not shortlisted, but who Miss Robertson and Mr Edwards-Grundy recognised as great designers. Eibhlin Hegerty, Evelyn Cadywould, Timothy Cadywould, Georgia Clark, Theodore Cayley, Maxi Shaw, Millie Hubbard, Michelle Woodford, Sophia Khan, Holly Dibsdall, Amelia Burgoyne, Maya Geremais, Clara Mitchell and Lizzie Reynolds. Look out for more news of our finalists.

Please help us

We are very concerned by the number of children who are being allowed to climb on playground equipment at the start and end of the school day.

It is really important, to keep everyone safe, that you and your children clear the school site as quickly as possible.

Please do not allow your children to play on any of the school's equipment before or after school.

He's behind you...

If you have not yet done so, please can you [complete the online form](#) and pay for this exciting event.

Children in Years 1, 2 and 3 will be watching 'The Wizard of Oz' and children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be watching 'Treasure Island'.

There will be multiple performances so that children can watch the pantomime safely in their bubbles.

More fun at Forest School...



The children in 4DR were very sad to have their last session at Forest School this week. 87% of parents said that Forest School day was their children's best day of the week.