

## News from Mr Edwards-Grundy

Your children have worked really hard this week, as I walked around school today there were lots of tired faces looking back at me! Readjusting to being back in school has taken some serious effort on their part, but they have done so with real enthusiasm and energy.

Comic Relief Day this year is all about jokes and there have been some fabulous ones shared across the school. Jokes are great at any time, but especially at the end of a long week, it is great to laugh together.

As we continue through this challenging season, it is too easy to get sucked into the difficulties that each day presents and to either forget to laugh or feel simply that there is nothing to laugh about.

The Christian message is not one that denies or ignores the difficulties that we face. Instead the Bible is clear that we can find a way through our current circumstances, whatever they are, because of the hope that we have in us, because of the good news that comes from knowing Jesus.

There is a famous Bible verse that says Jesus endured the cross "for the joy set before him". As we move nearer to Easter, in school we will be thinking a bit more about what this means and how hope can help each of us in the challenges that we face.

Telling jokes, as we have all done today, can bring us momentary joy, but it cannot and will not change our mindset. My prayer is that in the remaining days of Lent you will take some time to think about how you might achieve greater joy, that is not dependent on your circumstances, but is based on hope.

It's still great to tell jokes though!

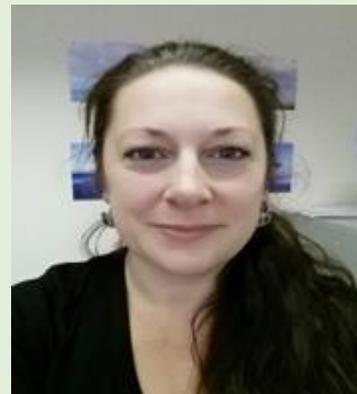
## Being a governor

At the end of this year, Dr Sam Sadler, who has been both a committed member of The Friends and a governor, will be stepping down.

We caught up with Sam to find out what she had enjoyed about both roles and what she might say to others considering getting involved.

"When my son was in Year 1 I remember a parent governor vacancy coming up and I was so excited that a few sentences to describe my skill set, turned into an essay!"

Sam also told us that "The work of a governor is thought provoking and varied...the position allows you to contribute to the development of the school and governor involvement really makes a difference. The joy and satisfaction that I have experienced in this role and the relationships I have made that I believe will last even when my son goes to secondary school are the best recommendation that I can give."



During her time as a parent governor Sam has also served as Vice-Chair and in her professional role as a Clinical Psychologist has offered support to the staff and governors.

In July, however Sam will be stepping down from her governor role and so during the summer term we will be advertising for a new parent governor. We will be looking for someone with a bit of time who would like to join the governors in supporting the strategic direction of the school – please do look out for more details in due course.

Sam has also been a valued member of The Friends, who do an outstanding job of raising funds for the school – please do consider joining that team, many hands make light work!





## Cricket

Witney Mills Cricket Club is running its popular All Stars programme again this summer at its Newland ground. The sessions are open to children aged 5 to 8 and run for 8 weeks from Monday 10 May 5.30pm – 6.30pm. This is a fantastic way to introduce kids to cricket, and for budding young players to practise their skills in a fun environment. Registration opens on 22 March at [www.allstarscricket.co.uk](http://www.allstarscricket.co.uk)

Also, brand new this year, the club is running a girls' section called Dynamos. This is open to girls aged 8 to 11 and is suitable for both All Stars graduates and those new to the game. Sessions start Thursday 13 May from 5.30pm – 6.30pm. To register visit [dynamocricket.co.uk](http://dynamocricket.co.uk) from 22 March.

## Comic Relief

Thank-you to everyone who donated to Comic Relief today, we raised a fantastic £335.40.

There has been laughter all around the school today as children have shared their jokes.

Today's best jokes, as decided by the admin team, were –

“What's brown and sticky? A stick!”

“Why don't you see elephants hiding in trees? Because they are so good at hiding!”

## Dance like there's no-one watching!

Dance classes are allowed to start again from 12<sup>th</sup> April.

MF Dance are keen to get everyone dancing. If you, or your children, would like to try a free dancer taster session and see if you are as good as they are on 'Strictly', [click here!](#)

## When on the school site...

Now that the weather is starting to improve and no-one is dashing home to get warm, we know that parents are taking the opportunity to catch up with friends they have not seen for some months.

Please can we remind you to keep moving when on the school site so that we have as few people on site at any time as possible. This will help keep our whole community as Covid secure as possible and give us all the best chance of June 21<sup>st</sup> really being the end of all restrictions.

## School library

If you have not done so already, please can we remind you to check your bookshelves at home for any of our school library books?

You can return your books via the school office, or your child's class teacher and no questions will be asked!

We are very grateful to Nick Reynolds, who is working with us to revitalise our library.

Please help us by returning any books you have from our library and also by donating any good quality books that you have at home and no longer need. If you would like to chat with Nick about the type of books we need, or would like him to collect any contributions, please do email him on [jennickreynolds@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jennickreynolds@yahoo.co.uk).

Thank-you!

## Sing, sing, sing!

The Oxford and Cambridge Singing School would like to invite children aged between 7 and 13 to join them at their Easter course, taking place at St Barnabas' Church in Jericho on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> April.

Singing is a wonderful way for children to connect with other children their own age as well as a fun way to improve posture, breathing and muscle tension.

The course has limited availability in order to adhere to social distancing.

To find out more, or to book a place, please look at their website [www.oxbridgesingingschool.com](http://www.oxbridgesingingschool.com)