

Our value of the month being respect I have reflected on the dictionary definition of respect - 'a feeling of deep admiration for someone or something elicited by their abilities, qualities, or achievements'.

I would like to express my respect for the dedication of the whole community around Cogges. From children in the building and at home learning in different ways, to the teachers and T.A.s who have risen so well to the challenges presented to them and found new ways to work, to Governors and the Academy trust who have supported the school in new ways and to our admin and premises team who have helped ensure communication and that we are well supplied and a safe welcoming space. Having four children myself, none of whom are in school, I would also like to express my heartfelt respect to you as parents/carers, for managing all the challenges of this season - well done.

I am delighted to say that our September plans, explaining some of the detail of what school will be like, are almost ready to be shared with you. The staff are so pleased to be planning to welcome all the children back into school. Tim Edwards-Grundy

Please use the email TheBlakeisblessed@gmail.com and put the number of blessings in the subject line.

[Look on our website](#) to see what happened to Mr Grundy the last time the school community counted their blessings! Can the school community reach 10,000 blessings before the end of term?

Many local churches are now open for private prayer.

If you want to take some 'time out', our church buildings offer beautiful and quiet spaces to sit, think and reflect.

Don't forget that many of our local churches are still also offering online Sunday and midweek services, or you can join in with the services provided by the [Church of England](#) nationally, or the [local Diocese](#).

You can [search for events](#) going on locally to find something you might like to join in with.

The members of St Mary's Cogges continue to pray for their local community. If you have any prayer requests, please do email them to prayer@coggesparish.com.

This week we asked Mrs Hayes, who works as part of our admin team, about her experience of being at home in the lockdown.

What are you finding hardest about being in lockdown?

I have really missed visiting my parents in the Lake District, especially on their birthdays. We had a big party planned for my dad that had to be cancelled.

I was very sad to have to cancel a holiday to the Algarve – I had been planning it for a long time and was really looking forward to it.

What is the best thing you have done during lockdown?

I have loved having my husband and both my sons with me at home.

I have really enjoyed having time to bake and cook new recipes, as well as reading lots of books, sitting in the garden, in the sunshine.

What message do you want to give to the children who are at home?

I think you have all been amazing!

I have loved hearing about some of the things that you have been up to.

Do go on staying safe and happy and carry on being kind to your grown-ups.



Where can we go during the lockdown?

This week, why not visit the [SS Great Britain](#)?

Known as the ship that changed the world, you can stand on deck and look out across Bristol, or head below decks to see what life was like on Brunel's famous steam ship.

This weekend the Scouting Association are holding '[The Great Indoors Weekender](#)'.

The series of events on 11th and 12th July is aimed at children aged six and above is for Scouts and non-Scouts, all around the globe.

There will be surprise celebrity guests, cooking, crafts, music and more! If you want to join in, you can do so in real time, or in your own time – you can dip in and out of the weekend as much as you like.

You can look at the programme of events for [Saturday](#) and for [Sunday](#) and join in with whatever you like.

Building a den and having a campfire are part of every Scouting event and this online event is no different – fingers crossed the weather holds!

The weekend is completely free, but if you register for the event you will get a certificate of completion.

You can follow everything that is going on using the hashtag #TGIWeekender.

If lockdown has provided you with some spare time, or you would like to use this season to stretch yourself, or learn something new, look on the [OpenLearn](#) website.

Everything on the site is free and covers an extraordinary range of topics. You can choose to read one or two articles, complete an activity or undertake some more serious study.

Forestry England has produced a '[Beginners guide to stargazing](#)'. Written in association with the BBC Sky at Night magazine, the guide is packed with fantastic activities for all the family.

The guide includes top forest stargazing spots, super star facts, stargazing top tips and how to find your way using the stars.

Also on the Forestry England site, you can find activities to do at home at twilight, or find out more about podcasts to keep you connected to nature. There is also a link to an online exhibition featuring photographs of Scarborough and an update on the 'White-tailed eagle project'.

If, following the sad news shared this week, you would like to access advice or support, please do look at the websites below, or get in touch with the following agencies.

[Child Bereavement UK](#) (0800 028 8840) or email support@childbereavement.org

[Cruse Bereavement Care](#) (0808 808 1677) or email info@cruse.org.uk

[Grief Encounter](#) (0808 802 0111) or email contact@griefencounter.org.uk

[Hope Again](#) (0808 808 1677) or email hopeagain@cruse.org.uk

[Winston's Wish](#) (0808 802 0021) or email info@winstonswish.org

Please do also contact school staff to discuss any ongoing concerns, where this is helpful for you.

If you have any safeguarding concerns you can still report these to Tim Edwards-Grundy the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

You can contact him on head.3600@blake.oxon.sch.uk.

LCSS (Locality Support) is available to give support and advice through the summer. If you would appreciate talking something through do contact them on 0345 241 2703.

Judith Ledden, our Home School Key Worker, is also available to offer advice and help families access the support they need. You can email her on jledden@blake.oxon.sch.uk or call her on 07864 814818.