

Our value this half term is Justice



I asked the Key Stage 2 children explain what 'justice' means – even if we know how to use the word it is still very hard to define. However, some pupils got very close by talking about fairness and a 'good world'. We have also started to explore how being fair is actually a very difficult and complex thing, as we do not all have the same starting point or opportunities. Christians and other people of faith will be called on to make sure the poor and oppressed have the same rights and opportunities as those more fortunate. We are not necessarily talking about giving away money or possessions, but more about standing up for others, speaking out and protecting people who find it hard to have a voice in society.

The story of Jesus turning over the tables in the temple is a really challenging story. He was so outraged that the temple was being used so disrespectfully, and the rich were being allowed to take advantage of the poor – selling at inflated prices and cheating people through money exchange – that he flew into a rage, took direct action and destroyed property. In Collective Worship we had a discussion to see if we could agree whether Jesus was right to lose his temper, or not. What do you think?



Ofsted Inspection – We are a Good School!

We are delighted to announce that the report from our recent Ofsted Section 8 Short Inspection is now available on our website. It comes in the form of a letter to the Head Teacher. We had a really productive day, and although we were 'put through the mill' and subject to very close scrutiny, the Inspector seems to have captured the spirit of the school and reflects our productive and happy atmosphere. Thank you to any parents who contributed via Parent View or spoke directly to the Inspector in the Playground.

In response to one of the Inspector's suggestions, we will be conducting a special evening during Anti-Bullying Week, which this year has the theme 'Choose Respect'. On Tuesday 13th November at 6pm, with the help of some pupils, will be explaining to parents how we go about our Anti-Bullying education in school. Parents will also have the opportunity to respond to and influence the Anti Bullying Policy. Please look out for more details and make every effort to join us, with apologies for the short notice – it really is important to us that parents are aware and understand how we deal with conflict, and protect from bullying.

Club News

These are the after school clubs for this 2nd half of term:

Mondays 3.30 – 4.30pm Multi-Skills (all ages)

places available

Tuesdays 3.30 – 4.15pm Yoga

(KS1), 3.30 – 4pm Family

Phonics (EYFS)

Thursdays 3.30 – 4.30pm Tag

Rugby (KS2) **places available**

Fridays 3.30 – 4.30pm Table Tennis (KS2) **limited**

places available



Remembrance Day 2018

As part of the commemoration this year, we are very thankful to a lovely idea from Mrs Stocking and Mrs Colson, to decorate stones with poppies and words, and to include the names of fallen soldiers from the Podington Parish. Please join them after school on Friday 2nd November to paint stones.



The village of Podington is also putting on a special event on Remembrance Sunday, 11th November, and they would dearly love to include pupils from school, so if you are a village family, or if you live further afield but would like to join the walk and community

commemoration, please know you will be very welcome. See the attached leaflet for details.

Our own Act of Remembrance takes place at 10.30am on Friday 9th November when the whole school walks to St Mary's Church. All are welcome to join us there, as Juniper Class place wooden crosses around the memorial and Oak Class pupils lead the prayers.

Support to Parents

We have two opportunities that parents can access directly at school – a **School Nurse Drop-In Clinic** on Tuesday 20th November and an **Educational Psychologist Drop-In** on Wednesday 21st November.

These are short sessions for parents to speak directly with the health and psychology professionals about anything that is concerning them. They will be offered professional advice, strategies and follow-up support if required. Please see the letters attached to this newsletter for details of how to book in.

Dates from the Diary

Thursday 1st November

School Disco

We are going to pilot a new way of running our school disco – we know that the changes are causing some uncertainty; please support us and let us have your feedback after.



The disco will be in the new hall for the first time, and children can arrive through the community entrance. The younger children can

be collected from the playground at 6.15pm to help a smooth crossover.

Tickets cost £2.50 to include drinks, a hot dog and snacks

Children are invited to bring a small amount of change for glo-sticks, but we will not be running a sweet stall.

5.30 – 6.15pm EYFS / Key Stage 1 pupils

6.15 – 7pm Key Stage 2 pupils

Thursday 1st November

Pumpkin Lanterns

If you have made a lantern and would like to bring it in to the school hall tomorrow morning! We will make an exhibition of them. A

small prize goes to every pupil who brings in a lantern, and they can be taken home after the disco. Get creative, have fun and see if you can spook us!

Friday 2nd November 3.30pm

PTA Pop-Up Tuck Shop and Poppy Stone Painting

Monday 5th November

Oak Class Greek Day

Tuesday 6th November

Playground Book Sale (see PTA news for details)

Wednesday 7th November (morning)

Willow Class Multi-Skills Festival Please provide a packed lunch for children and make sure they have PE Kit in school.

Friday 9th November lunchtime

School Council Shop – pupils can bring some change into school in a named purse or envelope and purchase stationary items from the School Council's shop to raise funds for the School Council's next project.

Monday 12th – Friday 16th November

Anti-Bullying Week

Tuesday 13th November 6pm

Family Workshop

Come and participate in this special event to explore our children's concerns about bullying and how to prevent it.



Friday 16th November

Children in Need Day – School Council will be in touch soon with details for this fundraising day.

Tuesday 20th November 8.30 – 10.30am

School Nurse Clinic

Wednesday 21st November 1 – 3pm

Educational Psychologist Drop-In

Monday 26th November

Individual School Photographs

Tuesday 17th November 3.30pm

PTA Pop-Up Tuck Shop

PTA News

We had a super busy and successful half term, thank you for all your efforts, including Dress as An Adult, Bags2Schools, garden clear up, furniture donations, and beginning our plans for the Christmas Bazaar.

We now have very smart new football / rugby goal posts on the field – the children are thrilled!

There is also a new Suggestion Box placed above the Pupil Voice Box – please use this to let us know of ideas you have had or seen working well elsewhere!

Coming Up Next:

Pop Up Tuck Shop – **Friday 2nd November** - bring your small change, as we share the after school slot with the Poppy Stone painting.

Usbourne Book Sale – get some Christmas shopping done whilst helping to get additional books for the school! An after-school sale will take place on **Tuesday 6th November**. For each sale made, the PTA can earn points towards free books, so we can continue to develop the School Library offer.

Calling All Young Actors! Wildchild Youth Drama

Mrs Wildman has details for this Sharnbrook-based Youth Theatre. Workshops for 7 – 10 years olds are on a Friday evening 4.45 – 5.45pm. Please call 07940 521491 for more details.

Golden Book Entries

The following are all the Golden Book entries for the first half term. Congratulations to all!

Acorn Class

All of Acorns – for settling into school so quickly

Felix Johnson – for trying so hard reading words with three sounds

Dexter Lawman – for a caring attitude towards other children and his learning

Harrison Freeman – for becoming more independent

Teddy Howe – for super reading and writing

Ben Chambers – for using his creative imagination in model making

Harry Stocking – for working hard with letter formation

Willow Class

Annabel Warden – for working hard in all lessons

Oli Saunders – for being a good friend to a newcomer

Daniella Moore – for working hard in English and maths

Sophie Lambert – for a positive attitude and working hard with writing

Leo Mahon – for concentration and hard work in guided reading

Nadia Gyzl – for fantastic story writing

William Howe – for working independently to improve handwriting

Leon Morden – for a fantastic attitude and hard work with reading

Ruby Cockings – for working independently and creatively on a Tudor house

Julian Nowak – for a wonderful creative homework

Oliver Cockings – for independent work

Isla-Mae Coletta – for being kind and helpful

Harriette Colson – for listening carefully and following instructions

Pippa Parnell – for using interesting words in writing

Lottie Strong – for working really hard in reading and writing

Juniper Class

William Richardson – for showing resilience in PE and again for excellent effort in English

Florence Ball – for her use of adjectives in writing

Keavy Nash – for independent working

Phoebe Nichols – for listening and answering questions

Bella Lambert – for a super attitude to learning and again for a super homework

Holly Cockings – for fantastic listening and behaviour

Chloe Bastin – for super descriptive writing

Alfie Stocking – for building a super Stone Age hut

Adam Nowak – for super maths work

Grace Warrick – for super acting in English

Bailey Hooton – for great partitioning work in maths

Sam Poole – for using good conjunctions in English

Oak Class

James De St Aubin – for a fantastic news report

Olivia Richardson – for her collage

Charles Clark, Frankie Sidorowski-Jenkinson and Olivia Watts – for excellent group work

Molly Smith – for much improved writing

Lucy Clark – for quick thinking in problem solving

Ellis Maskey – for a great maths explanation

Finn Worthington – for contributions to class discussions

Darcey Ingall – for an excellent effort in writing, consistent since the start of term

Mia Cunnington – for much improved writing and presentation

Eleanor Truckell – for great enthusiasm and team work in Tag Rugby

Ewan Kennedy – for consistently showing a mature attitude in school

Mia Eremita – for improving her maths skills

Fletcher Piper for hard work in maths

Lunchtime Stars of the Week

Zoe Warden, Samuel Bird, Daniella Moore, Jack

Saunders, Olivia Moore, Olivia Richardson, Bella

Baker, Lucy Clark, Jessica Hooton, William

Richardson, Dexter Lawman, Rex Carr

Volunteer Litter Pickers

Florence Ball, Lena Ciesielska, Fabiana Ciampa,

Samuel Bird