

Newsletter April 2023

Our Christian value this term is:

SERVICE

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value SERVICE. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK ABOUT SERVICE TOGETHER...

Jesus was called the 'servant king'; his mission was to **serve** God and to **serve** all those people he met, through his teaching, his example and the way he led his life.

Who are the unsung heroes who **serve** us?

- at school
- at home
- in our clubs

How do you **serve** others?

- at school
- at home
- in your clubs

THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"There is more happiness in giving than receiving"

The words of Jesus recorded in Acts 20:35 - The Good News Bible



READ TOGETHER...

Queen Esther serves her people

When King Xerxes, the ruler of the mighty land of Persia, was looking for a wife, Mordecai immediately thought of his cousin, the wise and beautiful Esther. Mordecai's family was Jewish, but he warned Esther not to tell anyone about this as he knew that there were powerful people in the land who hated Jews. Mordecai took Esther to the palace gates to be presented to the king, and, sure enough, as soon as King Xerxes saw Esther he fell in love with her, and the humble Jewish girl became a queen.

Mordecai often sat by the palace gates hoping to hear snippets of news about his cousin. For some time, all seemed well. But Haman, a wicked and powerful man in the court of King Xerxes, became angry with Mordecai because he would not bow down and honour him. Haman hatched a cunning plan. He began to tell the King bad things about the Jews living in his land and eventually he persuaded Xerxes that all the Jews should be killed. Queen Esther was beside herself with grief. She loved her people very much but felt powerless to help them.

King Xerxes noticed how terribly sad his queen had become, and begged her to tell him why she was so upset. Esther said she would explain if he and Haman would come to a feast that she prepared the following evening. When the grand banquet was over King Xerxes asked once again. "My dear Esther, you promised to tell me the reason for your sorrow." Esther summoned all her courage in what might be her last act of **service**. She told the King about Haman's plan to kill all of the Jews, which would include herself. King Xerxes was furious at the prospect of losing his beloved and beautiful Esther and ordered Haman to be arrested.

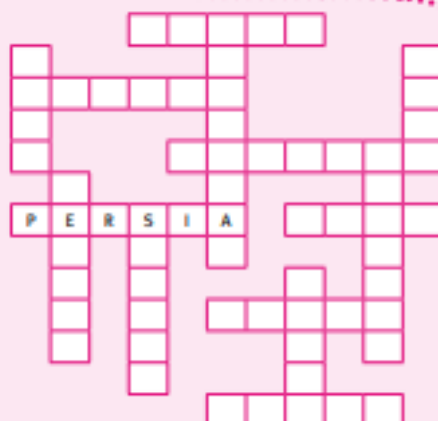
And so it was that Esther's name will be forever be remembered for her willingness to risk everything in the **service** of her people.

Bible story based on book of Esther



QUIZ Word Fit

- | | |
|----------|---------|
| ESTHER | FEAST |
| XERXES | GATES |
| HAMAN | KING |
| MORDECAI | QUEEN |
| JEWS | SERVICE |
| PERSIA | SORROW |
| CUNNING | WISE |



ACORN CLASS

Acorn Class have been busy writing stories in the present tense using the book, Traction Man as a stimulus. The children have created some excellent stories in their independent writing sessions.

We have had visits from young animals too this month, Mrs Spring's puppy and a box of lambs thanks to Mr Emmerson. The children enjoyed meeting our guests and very much enjoyed feeding the lambs their milk.

In Geography we have been learning about some of the wonders of the world including the tallest mountain in the world, Mount Everest. We found out that Bar Headed Geese fly over the top of the mountain at 10, 000m - that's as high as a jet plane!

In Maths Year 2 ,are completing a unit on fractions whilst Year 1 have looked at multiplication and division. EYFS have been ordering numbers to 20 and looking at 2D shapes presented in different orientations.

EYFS are enjoying their new learning space which is smart, bright and well resourced. Having their own dedicated space means that their learning area is quieter and completely dedicated to their needs whilst providing easy access to the outdoor learning area. We feel very lucky to be benefitting from this investment in our school facilities.

OAKS CLASS / MIGHTY OAKS

Art: So far this term, Oaks and Mighty Oaks have been investigating different ways of applying paint in by mixing tints and shades of a colour. They have selected a range of primary colours and have carefully added different amounts of black and white paint in order to create the shades and tints. Their next step looked at mixing tints and shades of a colour to give a three-dimensional effect when painting. They will continue to build on these skills of light and dark and paint their very own still life painting towards the end of term.

History: In History, Oaks and Mighty Oaks have just started to explore the Anglo-Saxon period. We have investigated who they are, where they sit on our timeline and considered why they came to Britain. We will continue by examining archaeological evidence and written evidence from the time to provide context for the archaeological finds and learn the importance them. By the end of term, Oaks and Mighty Oaks will be considering whether the period deserves to be called the 'Dark Ages'.

English: In English, Oaks have been busy arguing whether we should be allowed to feed animals in National Parks. They have been able to build sentences which offers explanations as to whether they think it is a good idea or not by using key facts, supporting evidence and formal language. Oaks are currently planning their own balanced argument to argue whether we should keep Zoos.

RE: Oaks have been thinking about the Day of Pentecost and how Christians believe that after Jesus returned to be with God the Father, he sent the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to help the Church to make Jesus' invisible Kingdom visible by living lives that reflect the love of God. As a class, we have explored a range of emotions which could have been felt during this period,

specifically the emotions of Jesus's disciples. To explore and explain these emotions, Oaks have recently created an emotions graph to represent the disciple's feelings starting from the day Jesus died to Pentecost.

MIGHTY OAKS

Despite only having returned to school for two weeks, the children have already been very busy. In English, we have been reading Michael Morpurgo's 'Beowulf' and the children are writing their own version of a part of this legend. This ties in with their learning about the Anglo Saxons in history. We have begun our science topic on 'growing up and growing old' and the children were intrigued to discover just how much liquid a newborn's nappy could absorb - we are going to investigate further next week!

Our Coronation preparations are underway, with children Maypole dancing during lunch times and painting portraits of King Charles in their art lessons.

We are also preparing to support the conceptual artist, Paul Hobbs, with his art installation at the church next month by interviewing people about their Christian faith.

Year 6 are all working hard to make sure that they are able to confidently show the best of themselves in the upcoming SATs and it has been lovely to see them supporting one another at SATs club.

Our Christian value for this term is service, which ties in really well with the Young Leaders' Award, where the children will be soon be deciding upon a community project that they will work on. This award, provided by the Archbishop of York Trust, encourages children to become courageous advocates - also one of the aims of our school vision.

NATURE CLUB (FOCUSED BIBURY OAKS)



Mrs Emmerson has been holding a nature focused Bibury Oaks session after school on a Wednesday. The children have planted sunflowers and are excitedly watching them grow, they have also planted a gorgeous flower tub that will brighten up the school!



FOREST SCHOOL

We have had a great time exploring in our Forest School sessions and it has been lovely to meet some new families. So far this month we have made birds nests and been looking for tiny treasures. We found lots of snail shells and a really big worm. We also found a big bumble bee that we moved onto a flower and a lovely blue beetle that we moved off the path



UP AND UNDER SPORTS



In Up and Under sports the children have been enjoying cricket and lacrosse. Learning new skills and competing in little matches against one another.

CRAFTS CLUB

This month in crafts club we have made shields and fire breathing dragons for St Georges Day and decorated the hall with crowns and flags for the Kings Coronation. We have used a wide range of materials from pipe cleaners to pompoms.



ATTENDANCE

The whole school attendance is currently : 93.92%

Acorns: 92.73%

Oaks: 96.52%

Mighty Oaks: 92.74%

FROM THE PTA

The Rag Bag bin is now empty and ready for your donations. This is a great way to help the school as well as clearing out those unwanted items!

A reminder that Beat the Bounds sponsored walk is this Sunday setting off from St Marys Church, Bibury at 9.30am. Please let the PTA know if we can be expecting you.

The PTA will be providing all of the cakes for our leaving party on the 2nd May for Ann Stringer. Please do come and join us to celebrate her hard work and dedication to this school.

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