

# March Newsletter 2022

Our Christian value this term is:

## Forgiveness



### FORGIVENESS

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

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

#### TALK ABOUT FORGIVENESS TOGETHER.

Everyone makes mistakes, it's part of being human. Sometimes our mistakes hurt others and then we need to say Sorry. Sometimes mistakes made by other people hurt us. When this happens we need to be able to **forgive**. **Forgiveness** can be difficult and costly but without it a new start is impossible.

Talk together about:

- A time when you needed to say Sorry
- A time you didn't say Sorry but wish you had
- A time when you had to **forgive** someone who had hurt or upset you
- How it feels when you are given a new start because someone has **forgiven** you



#### READ TOGETHER...

##### Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

Zacchaeus was a little man. He was a tax collector and had become rich by making others pay lots of money in taxes to the Romans and to him. He didn't have many friends.

When Zacchaeus heard Jesus was in town, he wanted to see him. But Zacchaeus was short and Jesus was always surrounded by a crowd. So Zacchaeus decided to run ahead of the crowd and climb a sycamore tree. From there he could watch for Jesus. As Jesus drew closer, he held his breath excitedly until Jesus stopped right beneath his tree. Jesus looked straight up at him! "Zacchaeus," said Jesus with a smile, "come on down. I want to stay at your house today!"

Zacchaeus hopped down. "You are welcome at my house, Jesus," he said with a huge grin.

But others grumbled, muttering to each other. "Why does Jesus want to go home with the rich, cheating tax collector? He isn't good enough for Jesus to come and stay at his house."

Zacchaeus heard what the people were saying about him and he wanted to put things right. He turned to Jesus and said, "Master, here and now, I promise to give half of my money to the poor. If I have cheated anyone in taxes, I will pay them back four times that amount."

Zacchaeus wanted to turn over a new leaf because Jesus believed that everyone deserved a new start and now Zacchaeus believed it too!

Bible story based on Luke 19:2-10

#### THINK TOGETHER ABOUT WORDS OF WISDOM

"Without **forgiveness** there is no future.... If you can **forgive**, then you can move on and even help the person you are forgiving to become a better person"

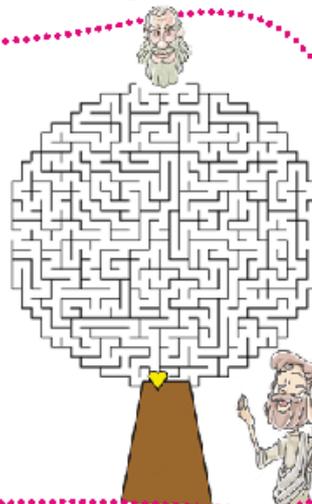
*Desmond Tutu*



#### QUIZ

##### Tree Maze

Help Zacchaeus find his way down from the top of the tree, to meet Jesus.



#### HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

##### Maze

Design your own version of the maze tree in the story of Zacchaeus.

You can either draw it on paper or use other materials to create it.

It's up to you! Take it to school to display in the Challenge Gallery.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

11/04/22 - 22/04/22: April Half Term

02/05/22 - Bank Holiday

18/05/22 - 20/05/22: Wilderness Residential Trip (Years 5 & 6)

30/05/22 - 01/06/22: May Half Term

02/06/22 - 03/06/22: Bank Holidays

15/06/22 - Leaver's Service at Gloucester Cathedral

04/07/22 - 06/07/22: Braeside Residential Trip (Years 2, 3 & 4)

21/07/22 and 22/07/22: INSET Days

25/07/22 - 02/09/22: Summer Holidays

## ACORNS CLASS

March has been another busy month in Acorn Class. In English we have been learning about legends and we have used the story of *George and the Dragon* to learn how to write effectively in this genre. This week the children have been asked to use what they have learnt to write their own legend and I look forward to reading the finished stories.

In Maths, all year groups have been working on measure. We have made good use of the outside learning area to practise our skills in measuring length, height, mass and capacity.

Our Explorers Day completed our history topic on Famous Explorers and we had a very enjoyable time with our friends at North Cerney Primary Academy. We took part in some challenging orienteering tasks, we found out quite how hard it is to pull a heavily loaded sledge and we found out how to light a fire before enjoying some toasted marshmallows and some camp fire songs.





In Science we have been learning about polar environments and how animals are adapted to live in these conditions. We have also been learning to group animals using the terms herbivore, carnivores and omnivores. In other areas of the curriculum, Acorn Class have been putting their painting skills to good work creating some lovely pictures of their mummies for Mothers Day - I hope that you enjoyed them ! In RE, Acorn Class have been learning about the Jewish faith and they have decided to add a Mezuzah to our classroom door.

Well done Acorns, you have worked hard this term and I'm sure that you are looking forward to your Easter holidays.

## OAKS CLASS

Oaks Class have enjoyed a very busy and enjoyable March both inside and outside of the classroom. Our learning in class has consisted of a wide range of wonderful work on fractions, carefully created and thoughtfully imaginative pop-up non-fiction books in DT, and some brilliant scientific investigating on how our mouths and bodies support us in eating. We have also produced some excellently spooky and intense mystery stories this month. Each child was able to choose the plot of their story and then had to remember the structure and language features that we have learnt about to make their story as mysterious as possible. Their ideas spread from a mission to find the Loch Ness monster to the disappearances of hikers in the Lake District. The vast array of ideas showed off how creative Oaks Class are! As always, they have worked incredibly hard and continue to delight me with their curious attitudes towards their learning!

Outside of the classroom, we have also been very busy! We began March with our exhibition of artwork in the church which was a superb opportunity to showcase our self-portrait sculptures from Term 3. We were all so proud and grateful to have the chance to show off our artwork.

We were also able to support a good cause this month by inviting our whole school to wear the colours of the Ukrainian flag and paint some bright and beautiful pictures of sunflowers. Both of these actions allowed Bibury to raise money to support Ukrainian refugees. Oaks Class were incredibly kind and thoughtful when painting and discussing the ways in which we must continue to support others. Our Year 4s also had the opportunity to take part in a willow weaving workshop to make wind chimes and a cross for our worship area on the playground. The children worked confidently in their team and produced some stunning pieces that have been hung up ready to be admired.



*Willow weaving*

As March drew to a close, we were able to go on a fantastic trip to the Ernest Cook Trust in Fairford to take part in a river study. This was a chance for Oaks and Mighty Oaks to apply all of their learning from their geography topic into a real setting. They measured the speed of different parts of the river, measured the depth across the width of a meander, and completed some excellent field sketches that our trip leader was very impressed with! Oaks behaved wonderfully and the whole trip was incredibly fun!

Thank you for a brilliant month, I look forward to the next!





*Experiments!*

## MIGHTY OAKS CLASS

### Oaks and Mighty Oaks

In geography this term, we have been learning about the water cycle and rivers. We identified the different ways that rivers can begin, learned about the features of each course of the river and followed



the course of the River Thames on maps. We have also looked at major rivers in the UK and around the world. The highlight of this term's learning was our field trip to the River Coln in Fairford where we were able to make field sketches and record width, depth and speed measurements for different parts of the river.

## Mighty Oaks

We are coming to the end of another very busy month of learning. In Maths, all pupils have secured an understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages; year 5 pupils have also been working on area and perimeter and have begun to use line graphs. Year 6 have all excelled at algebra and are completing a unit of work on ratio and proportion.

In English, we have been looking at detective stories and plotting our own.

We have been learning about the importance of the Torah in Judaism and how Jewish people try to live according to the rules stated in this holy text. We were fortunate to have a Zoom meeting with a member of the Cheltenham synagogue who spent an hour with the children talking to the children about Judaism and answering their questions. The pupils all wrote letters of thanks for this virtual visit.



In science, we have learned about the function of blood and the role of the heart in circulating this around the body. We all enjoyed making our own 'blood' and the children have investigated the effect of exercise on the body. This work has linked closely to our RSHE, where we have explored healthy lifestyle choices as part of our topic 'Being your Best'.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

Dear Parents,

This term Governors have been able to return to school for meetings and to visit lessons and we wanted to share with you how impressed we have been with your children. After each visit Governors have independently commented on how brilliantly behaved the children were across all year groups and how respectful, polite and caring they were towards each other both in the classroom and at playtime. The children are making fantastic progress with their learning, despite the disruption of the past 2 years, and noticeably enjoy lessons. Well done everybody!

We hope you enjoy a well-earned break over the Easter holidays and look forward to seeing you in term 5.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PTA

We have had a successful term with the readathon, jumble sale and Ragbag clothes bin. Mrs Godwin was very pleased to visit school and hand out prizes to all the children at the end of the readathon. Many thanks to you for supporting these fundraising activities. Thanks to you we have been able to finance the bookworm of the term books, maths champion vouchers, Easter eggs for all the children and coaches for the upcoming residential trips.

If you have any ideas for further fundraising, or would like to join us, then please let a PTA member know. We hope you have a wonderful Easter break.



## DGAT SCHOOL INSPECTION

On the first day of term, we welcomed our DGAT Quality Assurance Lead back into our school for her second visit of the academic year. Her name is Catherine Leahy and she is a current Ofsted Inspector. Her role within DGAT is to inspect all schools three times a year and she supports us to ensure that the quality of teaching and learning remains at the highest level for our children. The day is run as an Ofsted day would run and we are pleased to report that Mrs Leahy remains very impressed with the overall standards achieved by our children and the overall quality of education we provide at Bibury School.

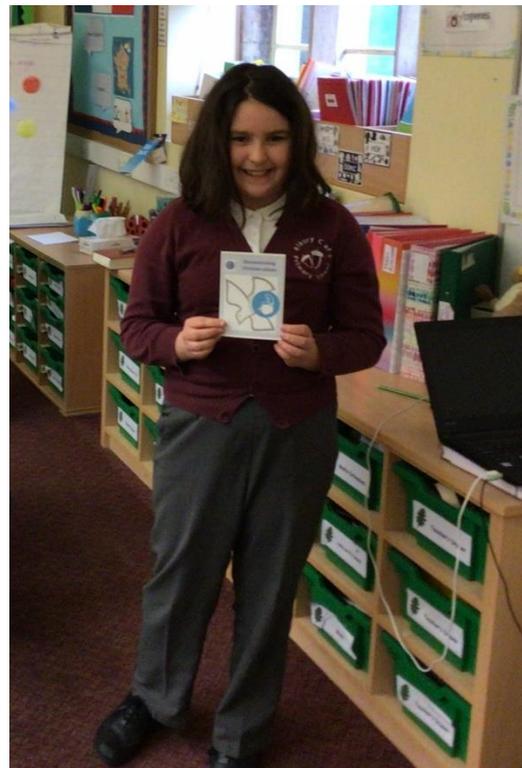
## WORSHIP COUNCIL – FUNDRAISER FOR THE UKRAINE

Our Worship Council asked to have a fundraiser for the British Red Cross appeal for those affected by the crisis in the Ukraine. On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March, the children had a non-uniform day and came to school dressed in the Ukrainian colours of blue and yellow. We talked about how we can help those affected by the crisis and a cash donation has been collected by the schools liaison team based at RAF Brize-Norton who will pass on our donation to where it is most needed.



## CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to all the children who received their bronze and silver Mathletics certificates in March.



Ethan and Raul received Accelerated Reader certificates, and Ava-Rose received a Christian Value postcard for her generosity in providing support to her classmates.

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE



## WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day was celebrated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March and this year the teachers and children focused on the importance of poetry in literature. The pupils were asked to learn a favourite poem and recite it to their classes. The children thoroughly enjoyed presenting their poems and a lovely display of their work is up for all to enjoy. In addition, the PTA organised a sponsored Reading Challenge to coincide with Word Book Day, and this generated a handsome amount of £318 towards their fundraising initiatives.

## CREATIVE ARTS

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March a lovely art and sculpture display was presented in St Mary's Church, where all the children proudly displayed their creative skills in clay, paper, wood, tinfoil and glass. Children in upper key stage 2 showcased their RE work which was titled "Glimpses" of Belief. Children produced art work demonstrating what belief means to Christians. The standard of work created was truly outstanding, children were

able to communicate a deep understanding demonstrating a standard of work beyond their years. We hope to continue to showcase more of our children's work throughout the year.

## WILDLIFE QUIZ

April brings Spring and of course the Primary Schools Nature and Wildlife Quiz which is run by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust. Our team was selected and so began lots of revising. The pupils used school resources as well as bringing in samples to share and discuss. After a practice quiz and a nature walk in Bibury they were ready. The team travelled to Southrop (along with Bibury Bear) and they were filled with nervous excitement. It was a very close match and it came down to the final round which was the sample round. They scored 6 out of 8. Winners.

Our incredibly dedicated team were amazing and all are very excited about reaching the 2<sup>nd</sup> round which will take place against Ampney Crucis next term.

Well done to Hammond, Louisa, Lilly and Evie. Also, well done to Raul our reserve for working so hard with the team. We are incredibly proud of you all.



Mrs Feltham

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We wish you all a peaceful, happy and safe Easter holiday!

