



## Newsletter

May 2025

Our Christian value this term is: Respect

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### RESPECT HOME SCHOOL VALUES

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#### TALK ABOUT RESPECT TOGETHER...

We are learning at school about the importance of treating others with **respect** even if we sometimes do not agree with the way they behave or the things they say. We have also been thinking about how we should treat the things that belong to us and to other people **respectfully**.

- Think of some practical ways that you show **respect** to each other in your family.
- Often we show **respect** to someone by the way we speak to them. What does this mean in practice?
- Do you treat one another's possessions with **respect**? What does this mean in practice?

#### THINK TOGETHER ABOUT WORDS OF WISDOM

"Respect - to get it you must give it"  
Aristotle



#### READ TOGETHER...

##### Moses and the Burning Bush

Moses led the sheep across the dry and dusty desert to Sinai, God's holy mountain. But in the stillness of the wilderness, while the sheep were grazing, Moses' thoughts were never far from the plight of his people the Israelites, who were suffering at the hand of the cruel Egyptian king. Moses had left Egypt years ago. He felt guilty and wished he could help his people, but what could he do? He was not brave, he was not a **respected** leader. Who would listen to him?

And then in the distance Moses noticed something very strange. A desert bush was on fire. The flames licked hungrily around the branches and yet, strangely, the bush did not burn up. He drew closer and as he did so, he clearly heard a voice call to him from the bush, "Moses, Moses!" "Yes, here I am," stammered Moses. "Take off your shoes", said the voice, "for you are standing on holy ground." Reverently, Moses untied his sandals and fell to his knees. "I am the Lord God of your ancestors and I have seen how my people suffer under Pharaoh. I have heard them call out to me to rescue them and now Moses, I am sending you to lead them to freedom." "But I am nobody, I am nothing. How can I go to the king and expect him to **respect** a simple shepherd? How can I ask him to let the people go?" But God replied, "Do not be frightened, I will be with you." "But what if the people will not listen to me?" said Moses. "What do you have in your hand?" "A stick," Moses replied. "Throw it on the ground." Moses did as he was asked. To his astonishment the stick turned into a writhing, angry snake. "Now bend down and pick it up by the tail." Nervously, Moses did as he was asked. Immediately, the snake once more became a stick. "When you perform this miracle," said God, "the people will believe that I have sent you. Take the stick with you for with it you will perform great miracles. Now go and do as I have commanded."

And so it was that on that ordinary day an extraordinary adventure began for Moses and for the people of Israel. It was a story that the world would never forget.



#### QUIZ Tangled Strings

Which stick became the writhing snake?



## An American Indian Tale

Adahy was a good father and as his young son, Kuruk, grew up he proudly taught him all that he knew. In time, Kuruk married and brought his new wife to live in Adahy's home.

Soon they had a baby son, Elan. As Elan grew older his grandfather, Adahy, began teaching the young boy all that he knew and Elan learned to **respect** the forest, its animals and all the different plants. As years passed by Elan's mother begrudged sharing her horse more and more with the old man until in anger one day she told her husband that Adahy must leave.

Kuruk was horrified, "I can't make him go, this is his home and he built it for us." Angriily his wife replied "If you do not make the old man go then I will be off and I'll take our son, Elan, with me."

Kuruk knew he had been left with no choice, but he felt so guilty he couldn't bring himself to tell the old man himself. Instead he told Elan to take his grandfather far away, deep into the forest and leave him. "Give him this blanket to keep him warm", he said. Elan was horrified. "But I love and **respect** Grandpa. He has taught me all that I know. How can I do such a thing?" His father replied, "Elan, just do as I've asked."

So the next morning, thinking they must be going hunting, Adahy followed Elan deep into the forest. When the old man could walk no further and stopped to take a nap, the boy, with tears streaming down his face turned back and left Adahy sleeping.

That evening as Elan returned, Kuruk and his wife saw the blanket. Elan explained, "I gave Grandpa half of the blanket.

The other half, I will give to you some day."

His mother and father understood the message. They went straightaway and fetched Grandpa.



## HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

### Who do you respect?

Draw or paint a picture of your chosen person and make a frame to surround it. On the reverse give 5 reasons why this person is worthy of special **respect**. The picture can then be hung in the school Challenge Gallery.



## FAMILY FOCUS

### Respect Detectives

It is important to show the same **respect** to other people that we would wish to be shown to us. It is also important to **respect** the built environment as well as the natural world.

Go on a family walk in your village or town. Look around for signs that people **respect** the places where they live by looking after property and public spaces.

- Can you see any graffiti?
- Do dog owners clean up after their dogs?
- Do you notice litter anywhere?
- Are public facilities left clean and tidy – ie benches, telephone kiosks, toilets?

Write to your local council to let them know the results of your survey.



## FASCINATING FACTS

Religious communities often treat their holy books with great reverence and **respect**. They believe the holy book contains God's teaching.

- Christians believe that the Bible is God's word to his people. They show **respect** and reverence by treating the Bible carefully. In some churches the Bible has a special stand called a lectern, from which it is read during worship.



- Orthodox Jewish men wear a kippah to cover their heads, as a sign of humility and **respect** towards God. The Torah scrolls are kept in a closed cabinet called an Ark and when reading them a pointer, yad, is used to follow the script so that the scrolls are not touched by hands.



- Muslims keep their holy book, the Qu'ran, covered and in a clean place, not on the floor nor with anything placed on top. To show **respect** and reverence they only handle the book with clean or gloved hands.



- Sikhs cover their heads and remove their shoes before going into a room housing their holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib. To show **respect** and reverence nobody sits higher than the Guru Granth Sahib and no alcohol is ever taken into the room.



## NCSA UPDATE

Chair: Jess James  
Treasurer: Helen Beesly  
Secretary: David Hayward

### Dates for the diary

**8th July** - BBQ and duck race at the Bathurst Arms after school  
Ice cream sales after school - dates TBC depending on the weather!

The NCSA would like to thank Tim Adams for donating the new log seats for the school field.  
I'm sure the children will enjoy them in forest school.

The NCSA are working to support the school with a variety of projects, including (but by no means limited to):

- grinding out some old tree stumps in the field
- thinning and pruning some of the trees and shrubs
- replacing some external wooden hand rails
- painting and decorating in the early years play area
- general tidying and cleaning

If you have access to expertise, kit, or time to help out with any jobs (no experience necessary!), please do get in touch with the NCSA.

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## DISTRICT SPORTS

Kingfisher and Owl class students took part in the District Sports Event. It was a wonderful morning spent at Cirencester Primary and all of the students tried their best and did us proud. Well done!



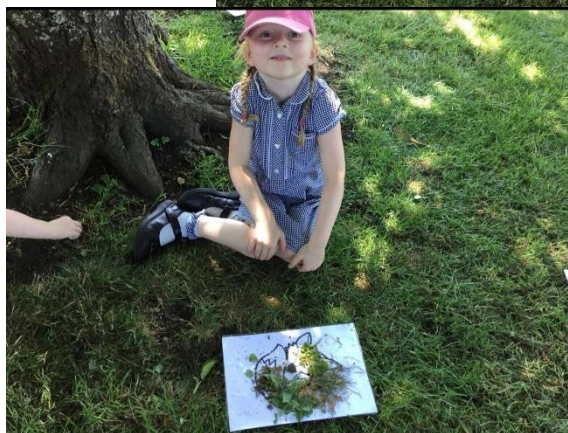
## FOREST SCHOOL

We created little art creatures in forest school this month. Everyone was given a picture that they had to recreate out of leaves and plants. The results were amazing and show how talented our students are.





A lovely sunny day at forest school. We sat in the shade, making animals out of all the little bits we could find on the ground. They made some beautiful animals. We were watering our potatoes and decided to make rainbows!





## WREN CLASS

Wren class love to bring in show and tell, though we do have a few rules. One is, it has to be something they have created - EYFS have been busy making masks, painting pots and drawing pictures. We love the creativity, well done.



## YEAR 6 LEAVERS ACTIVITIES

An exciting day for our lovely year 6, all wearing their hoodies courtesy of the NCSA - thank you! A wonderful leavers' service at Gloucester Cathedral. Well done to you all. You are fantastic and will be missed. Enjoy your last few weeks of primary school.



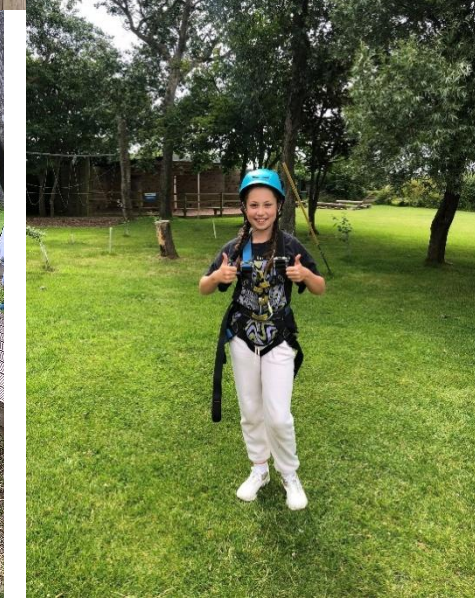
## SKERN LODGE

### Day 1

Skern Lodge day 1 - climbing and assault course. We had a quick journey down and straight into activities including a very challenging obstacle course and climbing wall.







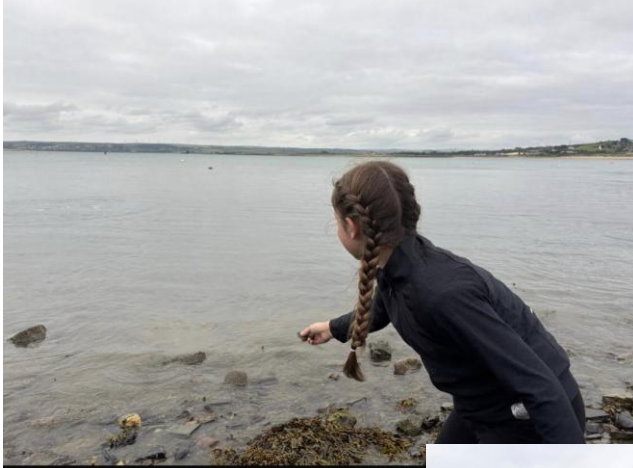


In the evening, we walked into Appledore, where we had chance to visit Appledore RNLI and have a look in the kit room.





Then we did some stone skimming and beach combing and we found a crab!





The food was great and helped keep our energy up for all the activities still to come!



Skern Lodge day 2 - Rafting. We got to float down the river in a raft and not in a raft - it was great fun and our wetsuits helped to keep us warm.





Next we tried surfing which is no easy thing!. What a fantastic afternoon at Westward Ho! and we all did so well - everyone got stuck in.



At the end of Day two following all that activity, we had a delicious dinner before enjoying pool Olympics and a warming hot chocolate.

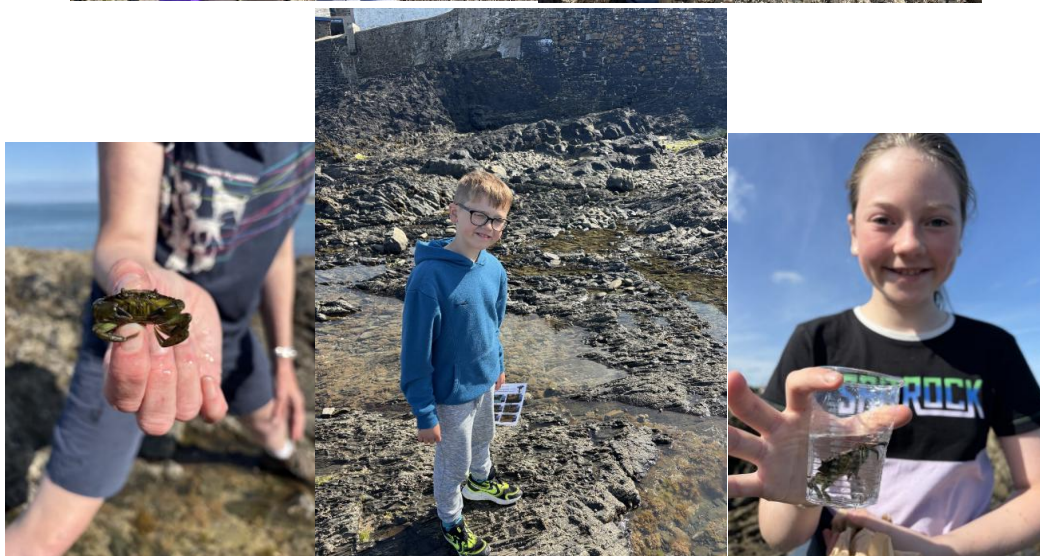


Hot chocolate and a game of charades before bed.





Our final day, day three, began with a wonderful and very sunny seashore trail. We found so many crabs and other sea life before heading home to share our adventures with parents and carers.



## FIRST AID

Thank you to Mrs McCracken for delivering such a great child-friendly lesson on first aid skills. Kingfisher learned a lot about how to phone 999 in an emergency. They also found out how to put someone into the recovery position, how to clear a blockage in a windpipe and how to keep the blood pumping around a body.





## PUDDLEDUCK WATER SAFETY

Puddle Ducks Water Safety Team came in to help us with our understanding of how to stay safe around water. We learnt about the dangers of water, and what to do if we saw anybody in danger. Everybody enjoyed meeting Puddleduck and learning how to stay safe.



## RIAT STEM CHALLENGE

In Owl class, we had a visit from the RIAT Stem challenge. Who could make a car travel the furthest? The only power was a large fan! Each group had a budget and had to purchase each item to make their sail car.

