

Dear Families,

### Assemblies

This week we have been practising our Retrieval skills in assembly to see how much we have learnt and remembered. Words of the week from the summer term last year and this year were chosen and the children were able to recall them, use them in sentences correctly and spell them. On Thursday, a range of children spoke with **Courage** about their year group's learning over this half term or about their own personal growth and today we have celebrated a diverse collection of knowledge/skills and values. It's been a really busy half term of learning, challenging ourselves and for our new starters settling in to our school – thank you for letting us look after your children!

### Trips

The School Council visited McCann's Coffee Shop in the Kennet centre today along with residents from Winchcombe Place Care Home to take in food donations and to discuss food waste. We are delighted to be continuing the link between our oldest and youngest members of the Community through the Generations of Change project. We discussed our value of Kindness and how that related to the donations from Winchcombe Place and the work McCann's do for the community, particularly helping out with food for families over half term.



### Word of the Week

This week's word was '**decrepit**' which children tried to add to their story writing this week. To help with next week's word please try to put the word into a sentence, define the word, look it up, draw a picture of the word or ask them to explain how they could use it in class.

After ½ term the new word will be: **tedious**

### Amazon Wish List

A huge thank you to all of you who have helped us at school by donating something from our wishlist this ½ term. We have been blown away by your **Kindness** and have updated our list accordingly. <https://amzn.eu/9DkD7q8>

### Bags2School

Thank you for your **Kindness** and support in bringing in your donations which totalled over £87 for the school!

## Remembrance Day

In advance of Remembrance Day on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, we will be collecting for the Poppy appeal. House Captains will visit classes from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November if you'd like your child to bring in any money. There are wristbands, key rings & poppies in exchange for a donation.

## Big Bang Disco

Our next FOWS event is the Big Bang Disco on 15<sup>th</sup> November – it will only be able to run with help from volunteers – please sign up here if you are able to help for one of the Disco sessions.

<https://volunteersignup.org/QYDJH>

## Hedgehog update

A while ago a number of our children showed compassion and **Kindness** when they found some hoglets on the school grounds and alerted staff. Thanks to them, they were successfully treated for lungworm which they would have picked up by eating slugs in desperation after they lost mum. They arrived weighing 150g and are now over 300g and will be with foster carers until they can be released next Spring. It's highly unlikely they will gain enough weight to be able to be released this year so will stay with Hedgehog Bottom or foster carers until spring.

## Reminders

We will return to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November, with gates opening at 8:35 am. Please ensure you continue to be prompt for the start of the school day as we know that lateness impacts on the start of your child's learning. Please also observe the one way system when dropping off at class in the mornings – families should leave via the phoenix club gate near the staff car park and not back through the bike shed gate.

## School Lunches

Don't forget to sign in to SchoolGrid to pre-order your child's lunches – if your link has expired you should be able to request a new one.

## Vacancies

We are still looking to add to our Lunchtime controller bank of staff (11:45-1pm or 1:15pm) either casually or possibly more regularly. If you are interested please contact the office.

## Upcoming Class Assemblies

Rowan 7 <sup>th</sup> November
Walnut 21 <sup>st</sup> November
Redwood 28 <sup>th</sup> November

I hope you all have a great half term with the opportunity to relax and recharge. Happy Diwali to all of those in our school community who will be celebrating!

Kind Regards,

Matt Percy

