



Small school, big hearts.
Wise, Responsible and Kind
like the Good Samaritan.

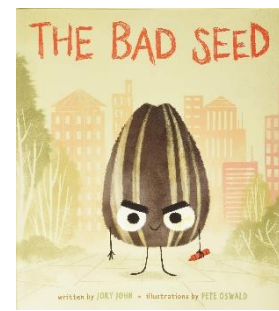
Newsletter Term 3 Number 5 Friday 7th February 2025

Values of the term: Diversity, tolerance and equality

"We may have different religions, different languages, different coloured skin, but we all belong to one human race." – Kofi Annan

Dear Parents,

This week, as part of Children's Mental Health Week, we explored the theme 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself.' In our Monday worship, we read the story – 'The Bad Seed,' by Jory John, a picture book about a sunflower seed who believes he is 'bad' because of his past experiences. The story follows the seed as he explains his behaviour - being rude, not listening, and breaking rules. However, as the story progresses, the seed realizes that he doesn't have to be defined by the choices he has made before – being 'bad' or 'naughty' isn't who he is. He decides to change and make better choices, even if he still makes mistakes sometimes.



We talked about how understanding our emotions and actions helps us grow into the best versions of ourselves. A key part of this is the language we use - at our school, we never use the word 'naughty' because no one should define themselves as 'bad.' Instead, we focus on choices and behaviours, helping children understand that everyone can learn, improve, and make positive changes. By recognising our strengths and areas for growth, we support each other in becoming kinder, more resilient individuals.

Here's a link to the story should you wish to read it together at home - <https://fliphtml5.com/rhexy/gvdk/basic>

Classes this week -

Acorns - This week, Acorns have been reading the story of the Gingerbread Man and learnt the role of a character in a story. We have had Gingerbread man crafts, gingerbread playdough and the Gingerbread man story sack. The Big Acorns have been learning one more and one less in maths, whilst the little acorns have learnt about triangles. As part of Mental Health week, Big Acorns discussed and shared which activities they like to do when they are in the blue zone and feeling sad.



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Beech - At the start of the week Beech Class wrote up their science egg experiment, researched different herbivores and what they eat, as well as learnt about Kenyan culture. Later in the week, Year 1 made bird feeders at Forest School while Year 2 made plastic thread from old plastic bags just like in the book *One Plastic Bag*; they then wrote instructions about what they had done. Finally, of course we had numbers day on Friday - Gr8t fun, 4 all!



Sycamore - This week we have been learning how to convert measurements - we have looked at metres, km, cm & mm. Y3 went outside and measured some prehistoric dinosaurs! In English we have been exploring setting descriptions ready for our narrative write next week. We have also compared Chinese and British culture, and we have started our drawings of plum blossoms ready for water colours next week. For Mental Health week, we have thought about our personality islands, inspired by Riley in



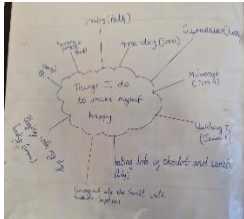
'Inside Out 2' and we have taken time as a class to discuss why it is important to look after our mental wellbeing. Today we have done lots of engaging activities for NSPCC numbers day as well as our science experiments - well done Sycamore for a brilliant week!

Oak - have had an extremely busy but fun learning week in school. As part of Mental Health week, Oak have shared what makes them happy and supports their wellbeing. In our English lessons, we have been writing reasons for and against the Benin bronzes returning to Nigeria using PEE (Point, Evidence, Explanation) paragraphs. The Y6 children, along with all the other Y6 children in the Cambrian Trust, have been answering SATS papers in preparation for their SATS week in May. Some outstanding scores already from some of the children. Two great lessons of PE took place this week; it is Intra School Dodgeball next Monday so PE kits needed in school please. In History, Oak have found out why 1897 was an important year for the decline of Benin. Today, the class have led Science experiments to their peers as part of the Trust's Science competition. The children



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were able to plan, deliver and explain their investigations to each other extremely well. Thank you for all your efforts in supporting the experiments and NSPCC Number Day.



Oak mapped out things that make them happy – lovely ideas and activities.



Daffodils – we are very lucky to have such beautiful daffodils along the verges outside school and are looking forward to seeing them in bloom very soon. Please can you remind your child to not walk on the grass along the wall and not to pick the daffodils – thanks for your support with this.

Parking – please can I also remind those who drive down Summerside, not to park in front of resident’s driveways or opposite in a way that makes it difficult for residents to leave in their cars – many thanks.

FOBS



We all need a sweet treat now and then – next Friday, Valentine’s Day, is your chance to buy some in the playground! FOBS will be holding a Sweet Treat Friday from 3.15pm.

Achievements

House	Horse	Ox	Dragon
Weekly total	71	63	75
Running total	356	402	336

This week’s certificates have been awarded to:
Acorns – George and Florence
Beech – Miranda and Tabitha
Sycamore – Charlie Y and Lola
Oak – Tom and Thea



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Bronze badges have been awarded to:

Dragon: Harry G

Ox: Poppy

Congratulations to all.

Have a lovely weekend, **Mrs Brown and the Buckland Team.**