



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

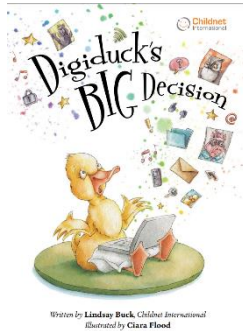
Newsletter Term 1 Number 5 Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

*Values of the term: Belief, Trust, Respect*

**‘Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.’ -  
Nelson Mandela**

Dear all,

During Monday’s worship this week, our Year 6 children were presented with their bibles. These have been generously gifted to them by the Diocese. The bibles will remain in school until the leavers’ service, when the children will be able to take them home as a keepsake to treasure forever.



We also learnt more about Online Safety through the story of Digiduck, who faced a big decision about whether to share a funny but unkind picture of his friend. With the help of Wise Owl, Digiduck learned how quickly things shared online can spread, and how they can hurt others - even if we think it’s just a joke. The story reminded us that being a good friend online is just as important as in real life - we should always think before we click, be kind in what we share, and make choices that build others up rather

than tear them down. All children, from our youngest to our oldest, can take on board the message in the story at their own level. If you would like to share the story at home, please find the link here - <https://www.childnet.com/resources/digiduck-stories/digiducks-big-decision/>

### **Harvest Service**

This week we gathered at St Mary’s Church for our annual Harvest Service. The children sang traditional Harvest songs and a lovely version of *What a Wonderful World*, shared poems and prayers with great confidence as we thanked God for the harvest. A big thank you to Mary Lines, who delivered your generous donations to the Rosehill Food Cupboard, serving one of the most deprived areas in Oxfordshire. This is the second year we have supported them, and we are grateful for the difference your kindness makes.

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### **Cross Country**

On Tuesday our Cross-country teams represented the school brilliantly at Buscot Park. All the children ran with determination, encouraging and cheering each other on throughout the races. Our Year 5/6 girls won their section, and our Year 3/4 boys secured a 3rd place. As the top two teams go through to the next round, our Year 5/6 girls will now be heading to the finals at Tilsley Park on 19th November – we wish them the very best of luck!



### **This week in classes -**

**Acorns** have been learning all about Autumn and Harvest. We have been sharing stories around this theme and have been looking for signs of Autumn in the garden during our leaf hunt adventure. We have been busy making our own Autumn crafts including scarecrow faces and leaf printing to create a big class tree. We have also been learning about the importance of road safety and Big Acorns put these skills to good use when they walked to the church for our Harvest service.

**Beech** class have had a busy week in school. We have been learning our number bonds to 10 and 20 in Maths. These are great to practice in the car as they are the foundations of addition and subtraction. In writing, we have started our new book Harry the Poisonous Centipede. We have been learning about adjectives and using them to describe both Harry and his mother Belinder. In ICT we have been thinking about what technology is and in art we have been using leaves to print our own minibeasts. We enjoyed going to the church for the harvest festival, thank you for all the offerings and on Friday we had a PC Ben talk today where we learned about what Police officers do and how they help us.

**Sycamore** In English, we have been busy completing our recount writing and have now begun exploring non-chronological reports. In Maths, we have finished our work on place value and started practising addition and subtraction. We also enjoyed a wonderful Harvest celebration, where some of our Sycamore children confidently read a poem to the whole school. In Geography, we are learning about climates in the rainforest and comparing the fascinating differences between our own climate and those of the rainforests.

**Oak** have been continuing to analyse the characters in Wolf Brother as well as explain the impact of language the author has on the reader. In Maths, the Y6's have shown great tenacity and perseverance to solve long division questions. We will revisit this focus later in the year as it is a tricky concept of the curriculum. The Y5's have been identifying common multiples and common factors this week. The more confident the children are with their times tables - the easier they have found this task. In Science, we have described how offspring of different animals are similar but not identical to their parents. The

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children then discussed which characteristics they inherit from their parents. There was some excellent teamwork and problem solving in Tag Rugby this week and this afternoon, we have discussed how we can all protect ourselves online.



**Safeguarding** - We are pleased to share with you a new monthly safeguarding newsletter called *Spotlight on Safeguarding*. Each edition will highlight important topics to help keep our children safe in an ever-changing world, both online and offline. This month's focus includes advice for parents on AI chatbots – how they can be useful, but also the risks to be aware of – and key information about Roblox, one of the most popular gaming platforms for children. By sharing these resources, we hope to support families in having open conversations and making informed choices about children's safety and wellbeing.

### After school

A reminder to all families that the school grounds need to be clear by 3.30pm Monday–Thursday, as our after-school club and a range of other activities take place straight after the school day. If your child is playing on the adventure playground or lower field at pick-up, please supervise them carefully. We have had some instances of children running across the playground and top field where clubs are in progress, as well as climbing on outdoor furniture, which can be disruptive and isn't safe. To avoid disturbing these sessions, please walk along the side of the playground when leaving. If you are collecting your child from a sports or art club, we kindly ask that you wait in the parent shelter or outside the gate by the road. With lots of movement on site after school, these measures help us keep everyone safe and allow the clubs to run smoothly. On Fridays, families are welcome to stay and play together, but children always remain the responsibility of their parents.

### Turning colder...

As the weather is starting to turn colder and wetter, please make sure your child comes to school with a warm coat and sensible shoes every day. We spend time outdoors in all seasons, and having the right clothing helps the children stay comfortable and enjoy their playtimes and activities whatever the weather.

### Next week

**Tuesday** – Year 5/6 Tag Rugby tournament at FCC. Info has gone out on Parent Pay for invited children.

**Friday** – FOBS Film Night 3.15pm

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### **Join Our Team!**

We are still urgently looking for an enthusiastic after-school club supervisor (Wednesdays and Thursdays). If you enjoy working with children and would like to be part of our school community, we'd love to hear from you! Please contact the school office for more details.

Advert for After School Club supervisor: <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/140278/EDV-2025-BCEPS-86507>

Please spread the word!

### **Achievements**

House	<b>Horse</b>	<b>Ox</b>	<b>Dragon</b>
Weekly total	80	124	113
<b>Termly total</b>	228	377	323

This week's certificates have been awarded to:

Acorns – Toby and Sophie

Beech – Elijah and Thomas

Sycamore – Finn and Chloe

Oak – Axel and Olivia

Have a lovely weekend all!

**Mrs Brown and the Buckland Team.**