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This week we have been thinking about the power of words and how the things we say can both harm and heal. With just one word, we can change someone's mood, cheer them up and really give them a boost—we thought about how simple words such as holiday or snow can instantly make us smile. Similarly, it only takes one or two words to make someone feel sad, isolated, angry or anxious, changing their mood completely. We used the example of a jury declaring someone guilty or not guilty, instantly changing that person's life with just one word. We talked about how important it is to think carefully before we say things, considering the impact that our words are going to have on other people. Words are indeed powerful and we need to use them wisely, speaking to people in the way that we hope they will speak to us.

Stars of the Week

Well done to the following children, who have impressed us in the classrooms this week with their positive attitudes:

Reception: **Sam** - for your enthusiasm and participation when we visited the Wild Garden this week

Years 1&2: **Phoebe** - for writing some amazing facts about London and using and using Google Earth to find landmarks

Years 3&4: **Ellie** - for tackling everything with great enthusiasm and a smile

Years 5&6: **William** - for giving everything his best this week. He was a resilient super-star at his first swimming gala

U11 Swimming Gala

What a fantastic day we had at the swimming gala! Our team of four boys and four girls absolutely gave it their all, showing incredible determination and team spirit throughout. Despite half of our team being a year younger than the competition, they held their own and swam brilliantly well.

The relays were definitely a highlight. Out of four relays, we made it to the finals in three—what an achievement! In the end, we were crowned 1st among the small schools and 2nd out of all of the schools competing.

The support and encouragement the children gave each other was truly wonderful to see. They cheered, laughed, and pushed each other to do their best, proving that teamwork truly does make the dream work. We're so proud of their effort, resilience, and positivity - well done all of you.

ID-You Presentation—Kate Edgcumbe-Rendle

I have received a lot of very positive feedback about Kate's presentation on the impact that smartphones, internet access, social media use and gaming are having on children's mental wellbeing. Our young people are growing up surrounded by ever-changing technology and the pressures for them to go online are immense. It is certainly no easy task navigating this as a parent, but I am really pleased that things do seem to be changing, with increased numbers, both nationally and internationally, calling for age restrictions around smartphones and social media. Change will happen when parents work together on this.

A big thank you to Milla Bankes, who put me in touch with Kate, and to Hugo Llewelyn who recorded the presentation for those who were not able to attend. A link to this has been posted with the bulletin.



Good Manners' Champion

This week's Good Manners' Champion is Alfie in Year 1. Alfie is very considerate and enthusiastic towards his peer group and he always looks out for other children, checking everyone is okay. He is very grown up and is clearly a loyal and respectful friend, someone who never becomes embroiled in arguments. Mr Grant praised Alfie for being an all-rounder and always remembering his pleases and thank-yous to both adults and other children. Alfie is a caring friend and never forgets to wear a smile. He enjoys praising others and he is a fantastic team player. The children wanted Alfie to know: "When I see Alfie on the pitch he is really nice to everyone and he's not mean"..... "On the pitch he is really skilful with the ball and has such good manners".... "Alfie is well mannered and always says thank you and please"... "When anyone falls over, Alfie is the first person to help them and to take them to a teacher".... "At lunchtime, Alfie always says thank you to Lou".... "You are a good Good Manners Champion" said Alfie's little brother Tommy!.... "Alfie is skilful and gives everything a try and he passes the ball to different people".... "Alfie has such good manners and always stops the game to check if someone is okay and if they aren't, he gets the teacher".... "Last week, Alfie was running around the teepee and said sorry when I bumped into him!".... "Alfie always says 'have you had a good morning, Inigo?'".... Well done Alfie. You should feel very proud of yourself and you set such a good example for other children to follow!

Dates Coming Up

Wed 29th Jan	U11 Hockey Tournament CNPS
Fri 31st Jan	West Oxfordshire Cross-Country Final
Tues 4th Feb	Chipping Norton Music Festival workshop—Y56
10th-14th Feb	Family Focus Week at CNS—for Years 4-6
Fri 28th Feb	Y34 swimming starts
Mon 10th March	Vision Screening, Heights & Weights—Rec & Y6
Thurs 20th March	Y56 Sing at CN Music Festival



High Flyers Holiday Club

Why not try our February Holiday Club

Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th February, from 9:00 until 4:00 at Christopher Rawlins Primary School Adderbury.

This time, we're bringing you a fun-filled and exciting two-day event with the amazing theme of Walt Disney's Moana and Science.

There will be lots of amazing activities planned to keep the children entertained, engaged and learning through play.

From adventurous Moana-inspired fun to exciting hands-on science experiments, it's sure to be a hit!

Spaces are limited- so make sure to book early to avoid disappointment.

We can't wait to see your children there for a couple of days filled with fun, laughter and learning!

You can book through our website, <https://www.highflyers.org.uk> or on our booking platform <https://highflyersoxfordlimited.ipalbookings.com/>

Vouchers - for those working over 16 hours, you can take advantage of the 'Government's Choices Scheme', to save 20% on childcare. Also, when booking through our system you can pay by bank payment, so there is no booking fee.

We also offer 10% off for siblings attending the club!



High Flyers Breakfast and After School Club

What a Fun and Exciting Week We've Had! This week has been packed with laughter, energy, and creativity. The children have had a brilliant time, and we're so proud of all their enthusiasm and talent!

Outdoor Fun: We have had lots of football matches, swing ball competitions, and tennis games, giving everyone a chance to burn off energy and enjoy the fresh air, as well as plenty of fun playing in the tent, sparking imagination and teamwork.

Amazing Talent Show: the children wowed us with their incredible talents and kept us entertained. What a fantastic group of performers!

Oral Hygiene Focus: This week's theme was keeping our smiles healthy and happy. We did some fun toothy craft activities and had great conversations about oral hygiene.

Creative Activities: We made beautiful bracelets out of beads, showcasing the children's creativity with some stunning designs.

High Flyer of the Week: A huge congratulations to P, who has been an absolute joy to have around. She's always smiling, polite and kind, and her artwork is truly amazing. Well done, P!

Thank you to all the children for making this week so special!

Best wishes, The High Flyers Team