



# NEWSLETTER 186

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017

USS Swearer (DE-186) was a Cannon-class destroyer in the United States Navy during World War II.

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Dear Parents and Friends,

## Our values

This term we are concentrating on two linked values – Responsibility and Justice. Whilst I’m exploring the first, Year 6 are developing our thinking on the latter. In the Biblical book of Amos it says “Let justice roll down like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!” There are many different facets to the Biblical concept of Justice. Biblical justice is more than fairness and equality, it is a strong bias towards the weak, the poor and the socially disadvantaged who are cared for, whether they deserve it or not. All have a right to life, freedom and dignity. In God’s eyes every person is precious and oppression or discrimination, on any grounds, has no place (Exodus chapter 23 verses 2,6). God’s justice is gracious”. He always acts justly and he calls on people to do the same. Justice is often interpreted in terms of seeking rights for oneself or one’s own group (~we demand justice’) when biblically it is really an action on behalf of others. ‘Justice’ is not for ‘just me’. How does our school make children aware of global justice issues? How does our school support charities? What strategies are in place to ensure that rules and procedures in the school are fair and just? How do we encourage pupils to take responsibility for each other in the school community and to develop a sense of responsibility towards their “neighbours” near and far? How does our school ensure that it is an inclusive community for all? How does the school demonstrate compassion and help for those who have made mistakes? Challenging thoughts indeed!

## End-of-term reports

As promised, we have been experimenting with an additional way of keeping you up to date with your child’s progress. Coming home this week are copies of the assessments we have made for your child in the core subjects of Reading, Writing and Maths. Please read the covering letter carefully since it explains some of the complexities of the new curriculum. In particular we are asking you to note that the objectives are designed to be achieved at the **end of the school year**. Therefore, any ‘green’ boxes you see indicate good progress, whereas ‘orange’ is more typical of what might be expected. We have taken this step in response to parental feedback about the quality of information you receive about each child’s progress. Your thoughts are welcomed on the format, as well as the content.

## Poetry from Class 3

“We have enjoyed reading George’s Marvellous Medicine and have made up rhyming recipes for medicines of our own.”

So give me a trainer from lost property,  
Or go to the farmhouse for some mouldy broccoli.  
Chuck in some lizards with beady eyes,  
Let’s put in her least favourite... mince pies.  
Will she land in the middle of nowhere, let’s see,  
Will she land at the top of the highest tree?  
Give me a pretty butterfly’s wing,  
Or a slimy slug found on a swing.  
Chuck in eight moths,  
Or the toe nails from a slow sloth.  
What’s missing? “Beetles!” Don’t forget them,  
What about a lily flower, or just the stem?  
Throw in some woodlouse,  
Or the long tail of a small mouse.  
Luckily you cannot hear this,  
How do you like it, Little Miss?  
I wonder what it will make you do,  
Maybe you will have a big dose of the flu.  
Mix it and stir it until it is done,  
Tap it three times and wait for the fun!

By Bess

To Dad, to make you happy,  
A silly joke and song so clappy.  
A picture of a skipping bunny,  
A twisty mirror to make you look funny.  
A sky full of rainbows,  
Lots of sunshine when the rain goes.  
Jumping up and down like a crazy dude,  
Marshmallows and chocolate, my favourite food.  
At the end, my family I see,  
Laughing and singing along with me.

By Abby

## New kitchen, new menu.

I am told that we should be able to order from the 3-choice menu on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>. These meals will be made in the newly refurbished kitchens at Cam Woodfield Infant School. I hope to post the full menu online this weekend, but in the meantime you have the glossy A5 flyers to whet your appetite!

## Playground

Delays at another job mean that our playground upgrade is scheduled to start in early February. Watch this space!

