



To Dream of Olympic Gold

In this week's school assembly, Mrs Hughes-Morgan offered an inspiring reminder of what can be achieved through courage, determination, and belief. The children were captivated by the story of Ben Hunt-Davis, a member of the GB Men's Eight rowing team at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. In the two years leading up to the Games, the crew had never won a medal. Their target was audacious: Olympic gold. To achieve this, they needed to complete the Olympic course in just 5.5 minutes—a time that, at the outset, they simply could not reach.

The transformation of the team came not through focusing on the outcome, but by adopting a set of *Performance Principles* that shaped every aspect of their work together.

- Focus on what is important
- Focus on performance, in order to get results
- Work together effectively

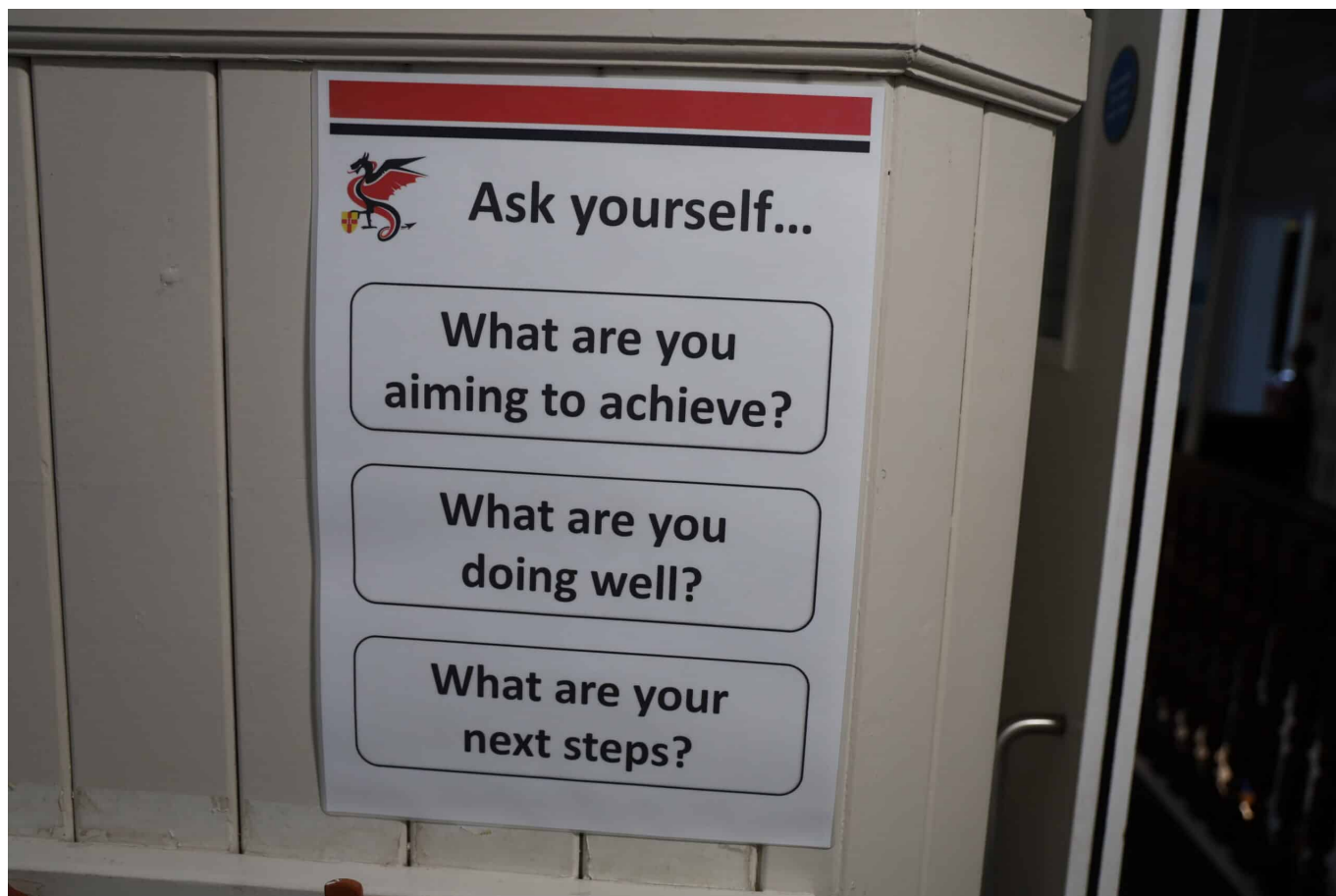
We learned how this mindset of continuous improvement and purposeful action, transformed their training, their teamwork, and ultimately, their destiny. By embracing these commitments, the rowers progressed from a team that regularly finished seventh, to Olympic champions. In Sydney, they crossed the finish line first and Olympic gold was theirs. Their “crazy goal” had become reality.

We then reflected on how we might ask ourselves similar questions at St Faith's. Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, in art, drama, music and in our friendships:

- What are we aiming to achieve?
- What are we doing well?
- What are our next steps?

We anticipated that when we channel our energy into what we can control, our effort, our choices, and our attitude, we can open the door to remarkable achievements. Who knows what goals we might reach if we continue asking the right questions?





Quiz Club National Championships

Continuing the theme of mindsets focused on improvement and purposeful action, Mrs Hughes-Morgan congratulated the Quiz Team on their performance at the [Quiz Club General Knowledge National Championships](#). The final, held on the very last day of the Summer term, took place in the august setting of the Examination Schools building of the University of Oxford. Whilst many of us were celebrating prize winners and bidding a fond farewell to our Year 8 leavers, four of our pupils were tackling some exceptionally demanding general knowledge questions. The pupils came a very creditable 10th place, out of 34 teams and we congratulate them warmly on this considerable achievement.

We are very proud of their performance, and look forward to seeing more pupils taking up the opportunity to join Quiz Club. This activity is open to all children in Years 3-6 and pupils can speak to Miss Dow in the first instance if they would like to know more.



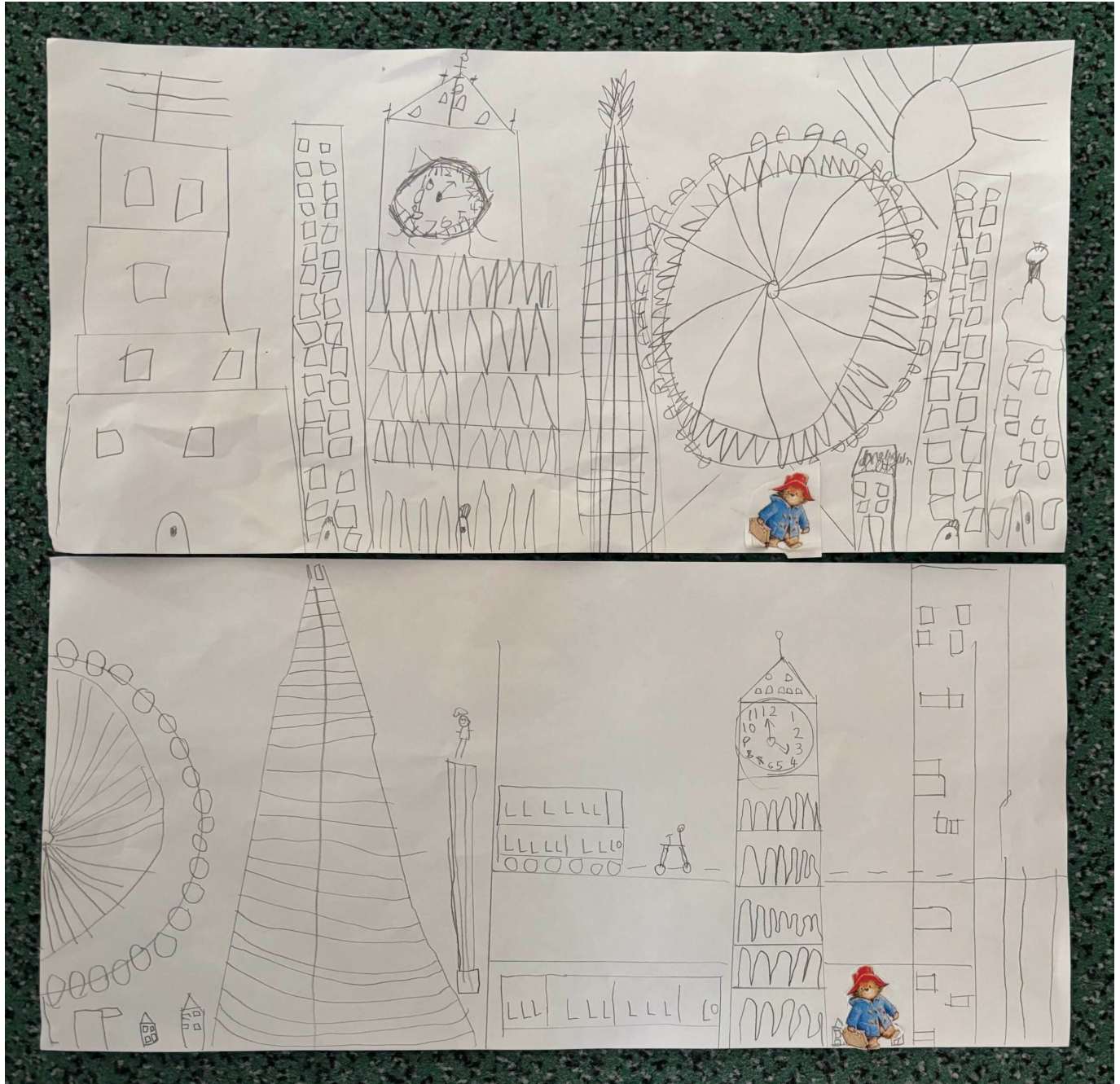




The Artwork of Stephen Wiltshire

Mrs Clarke writes,

"In Year 2 this week, the children explored the incredible artwork of Stephen Wiltshire, the artist known for his detailed cityscapes drawn entirely from memory. His life story and talent inspired the children, who then created their own city skyline. With our current topic being "Paddington in London", children included some important London landmarks and really enjoyed adding Paddington Bear to their artwork."







Roald Dahl Story Day

Miss Johnson writes,

["Roald Dahl Story Day"](#) is an annual, global celebration held on 13th September, marking the birthday of the popular British author Roald Dahl. The day is dedicated to his imaginative stories, characters, and worlds, encouraging people, especially children, to engage with his books through activities like reading, dressing-up, themed events, and creative projects. On Friday, one of our pupil librarians took some lovely photos of pupils enjoying activities and quizzes in the library.

Catering also celebrated the day by serving an incredible Roald Dahl themed menu including; *BFG* 'Mud Burgers', 'Snozzcumbers' and *Bruce Bogtrotter* Chocolate Cake from the book *Matilda*."





Meet the Tutors and Introduction to the School Year

At St Faith's we value greatly the support that we receive from our parents in building and maintaining the partnership between home and school. This week, it was a great pleasure to welcome parents to our *Meet the Tutor* and *Introduction to the School Year* evenings. These occasions are designed to provide both guidance and reassurance as families and children begin the new academic year.

I hope that those who attended found the sessions informative and useful. The slides from all presentations are available on My School Portal (MSP) for all parents who would like to revisit them.

St Faith's Parents' Association (SFPA) Coffee Mornings

The St Faith's Parents' Association (SFPA) plays a vital role in the life of our school community. The SFPA is made up of parent volunteers, who generously give their time to organising a wide variety of social and fundraising events. This term's highlights include the popular Scavenger Hunt for the younger children, Fireworks Night in November, and the Christmas Fair in December. For ticketed events such as Fireworks Night, we advise early booking to avoid disappointment, as such events often sell out quickly.

In addition, the SFPA coffee mornings provide an informal and hospitable opportunity for parents, both new and longstanding, to meet over a hot drink and some delicious pastries. The dates are advertised in the school calendar, and they are usually timed to coincide with the Breakfast Club for that year group.

On Thursday, it was a pleasure to welcome so many Year 1 and 2 parents. Earlier today, there was a very special welcome to some of our new families, across several year groups. I do hope that you are beginning to feel very much part of our community and that your children are settling happily into their new routines and developing new friendships too.



Old Fidelity (OF) Barbecue

As reported in the previous newsletter, last Friday marked our annual OF (Old Fidelity) Barbecue.

Held in the Headmaster's Garden, the event was a great opportunity for over 40 former pupils and staff to catch-up with old friends and to share stories about their time at the school. We were extremely thankful that the weather remained sunny and warm for the evening, as we welcomed Old Fidelitys who had been at St Faith's from as long ago as the 1950s, right up to those who left only a couple of years ago.

Our catering team provided everyone with a delicious meal and many guests took time to enjoy looking at a selection of memorabilia from the St Faith's archives, including photographs of pupils in their Southfield dormitory (now of course home to Pre Prep), as well as a photo album dedicated to the visit of the late Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh when he came to open Ashburton Hall in 1999.

There are more photos of the event on the Old Fidelity Facebook page [**Old Fidelitys – St Faith's School, Cambridge.**](#)







St Faith's Parents' Association (SFPA) and OF Committee Meetings

Events such as the OF Barbecue, Fireworks Night, the Summer Party, and Old Fidelian Sports fixtures depend greatly on the dedication of our volunteers, both parents and former pupils. We are very fortunate to have so many who generously give their time, some of whom volunteer for both the SFPA and OF committees.

The two committees hold their meetings at the beginning of each term, and on Tuesday we were delighted to welcome two new members to the Old Fidelian Committee, both of whom are also current parents.

Please do contact sfpa@stfaiths.co.uk, or marketing@stfaiths.co.uk if you are interested in finding out more about the work of the committees – I warmly encourage you to get involved.





Prep Open Morning, Tuesday 21st October

As we look forward to the term ahead, our next Open Morning event will be held on Tuesday, 21st October, as you will have seen on our banners displayed outside school.

This event is predominantly for families who wish to join St Faith's in Years 3 to 7 in September 2026, however we will also be happy to welcome families who are looking ahead to 2027, or even 2028 entry. If you have friends or colleagues who may be interested in joining our community, please do encourage them to sign up via our website: [Open Mornings – St Faith's Cambridge](#) . Early registration is strongly advised.

And Finally...

It has been a busy and energising week—from Olympic-sized ambition in assembly to Paddington Bear appearing in Year 2 artwork. The action continues on Saturday when we welcome the hockey team from Kent College to Latham Road, for our longstanding annual Year 6 fixture. After such a lively week, I do hope the weekend also brings moments of calm and the opportunity to enjoy time with family and friends.

With all best wishes,

C. Hyde ~ Dunn

Crispin Hyde-Dunn

