

The Vicar Writes...



February 2022

Dear Friends,

I've recently been most frustrated by the news and all the media coverage about the Number 10 parties. I mentioned this to a friend, Reverend Linda Lilley saying that I wanted to write about it and she said she already had. This month I would like to share her words - I couldn't have put it better.

What do you see? A 6 or a 9?



It's all about perspective!

Whatever situation you find yourself in there is always more than one way of looking at it. When we stand firm, unwilling to see things from another view point, the usual outcome is, at the very least, disagreement and at the worst conflict.

How we view our world, from our perspective colours totally our reading of the situation. The picture above is just one simple example of how both can be right depending on how we view it. Depending where you stand, where you view the digit above from, you will see different things. We can become so ensconced in our views that we are both unable and unwilling to consider that we might be wrong — or that there might just be another way of viewing the world!

I guess, very topically, we could ask when is a party a party? When does work become play?

Rights or wrongs aside, I suggest that we look to our own actions and behaviour before criticising. Remember the words of Jesus, '*Let he who is without sin cast the first stone*'. (John 8:7) We need to zoom out from what we think we see to be able to fully understand because '*A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion*' (Proverbs 18:2)

There are times when there is no right or wrong. These can be tricky situations to navigate; we need the wisdom of Solomon and the love of Jesus to help us to see clearly. We often know only a portion of the truth. We each have our own world view and whilst it might be the truth for us it may be very different from how others see it.

So '*Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*' (Ephesians 4:32)

Rev'd Niki