



St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School

Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AA

Executive Head Teacher: Mr James Procter

Head of School: Miss Becca Hare

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Term 2 Week 4

Friday 27th November

Head Teacher Awards

There are two children who have received Head Teacher awards this week:

Ashleigh: for outstanding progress in descriptive writing with lots of advanced grammatical techniques used.

Nicco: who has made fantastic progress in story writing, using incredible vocabulary and imagination.



British Citizen

This week's British Citizen award goes to Ruby-Mae for being really patient to all her friends and so kind to Maple Class helping them on the playground

Well done, Ruby-Mae!



Attendance

Whole school: week: **98.6%**

year: **96.6%**

Maple: **93.6%**

Cherry: **99.3%**

Willow: **99.2%**

Lilac: **100%**

Less than 94.9% - Red

95 to 96.4% - Amber

96.5 to 99.9% - Green

100% - Gold



Top Tips

- **Letters home:** whole school: Partnership Update, Parent Consultation forms and suspected case emails.
- **PTFA:** please support your PTFA; a copy of latest minutes inside.
- Please ensure your children have enough layers to keep them warm in school.
- **Nativity songs:** these are on the website, please practice at home!
- **ParentPay:** pop onto Parentpay to update your outstanding balances, please.



Learning Powers Certificate

In our Celebration Assembly today, the following children celebrated their achievements:

Maple: Oliver

Cherry: Albie

Willow: Ryah-Rose

Lilac: Thomas W



Linking Lemur



Brave Bee



Curious Cat



Persevering Parrot



Concentrating Crocodile

Well done to all!

Wellbeing Award update

As you know, St Mary's are currently working towards achieving the Wellbeing Award for Schools. Thank you those that completed the parent evaluations – the response was overwhelmingly positive and the award steering group are currently discussing ways we can put your ideas for improvement into place.

Along with the steering group, Miss Banks has been updating relevant policies to ensure that positive mental health and emotional wellbeing of the whole school community is clearly highlighted: we feel it's important for parents to be aware of any changes to school policies, so keep your eyes peeled for news on updates! Additionally, we recognise that this has been an extremely difficult year for all and heading towards Christmas, we feel it's important for you to know we are available if you need any support or just need to talk! If you are interested in working with us to promote positive mental health and wellbeing, please chat to Miss Banks.



If you need the newsletter, or any other school letter, to be in a different format, please speak with Mrs Funnell in the school office.

If you need help or support with access to any information, please also contact Mrs Funnell.

Reading Reward Scheme

Thank you for your ongoing support in totting up the minutes read at home, and the additional comments you make.



Reading Records are checked weekly in school by the class teacher or teaching assistant and minutes are counted for the class total.

This week's results for our Reward Scheme:



Maple: 648 minutes

Cherry: 1,676 minutes

Willow: 2,004 minutes

Lilac: 2,010 minutes

Well done, Lilac!



Sports Award

This week, the awards go to:

Harvey: for great enthusiasm, focus, skill and attitude demonstrated throughout Football.

Lucas: for much improved stick-work and excellent control during hockey.

Riley: for great running, listening and participation during PE.

Oliver: for great listening, focus and participation during PE.

Well done to you all!



Library

We have been busy this week working hard to make the library environment more inviting and organised for the children

With a reminder of how the library looked last week (see below) it is looking much more purposeful and we are excited to see the new books when they arrive!



Library Heroes

Following on from our two Library Heroes last week, we have a big thank you to say for the generosity of one of our families. The benefactor wishes to remain anonymous, but **THANK YOU!**

Miss Hare is working hard on sourcing books for our new Free Reading book scheme, which will help children find a free-reading book at a suitable level for them and the donation received this week will help greatly towards these.



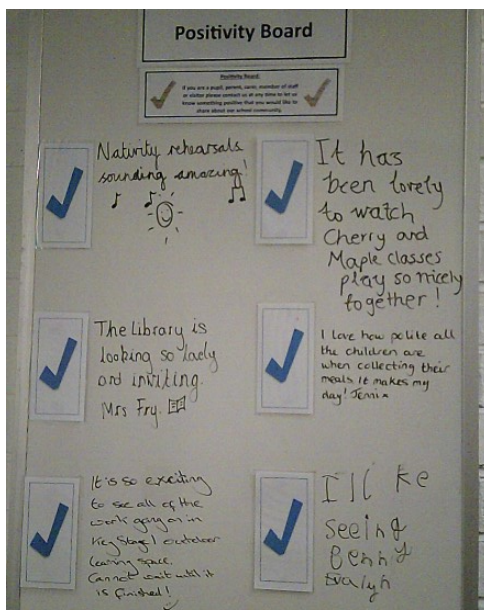
Starfish Malawi

On Wednesday, we had a very special assembly with Chris Knott, the founder of our link charity Starfish Malawi. He showed us loads of brilliant pictures of children in Malawi, including those from our partner school in Kajendere. He updated us on how Malawi have been coping during these particularly tricky times and reminded us the importance of our continuing work with the charity and loving one's neighbour. The children asked some brilliant questions and enjoyed seeing what the classrooms look like in Malawi!



Positivity Board

This board enables us to write positive comments, from parents, carers, staff, children and visitors that they would like to share with others about the



school, their classes, the children or events.

Thank You!

A big thank you to all of you from the St Mary's office this week!

There have been lots of forms and letters flying around but we nearly have everyone now ready for Christmas Dinner, Nativity, and the End of Term Service.

As well as this you have been remembering when to bring in waterproof clothing for Forest School, Benny walks and Tree Planting, together with when to drop off and pick up at varying locations.



All of this before you look at everyday needs, getting to school on time and homework. You are fabulous and thank you!

Benny

This week, Benny has been giving us a reason to get out and about for some fresh air. We scabbled up piles of earth and didn't get at all competitive with our game of Pooh Sticks!



Willow Class - Forest School

Thursday 19th November 2020

The Impact of Forest School for the children is the knowledge they gain from the Forest School experience. The impact can be seen through the skills, tools used, art and craft activities, observations and knowledge of the fruit, plants and trees in relation to the seasons and the skills involved in learning how to play Forest School games.

Having learned about maps and using compasses to determine directions at The Ashdown Forest on the previous day, Willow Class set out with maps of the village and compasses.

At points along the route, the class stopped and checked which orientation they were heading in. They played a game with directions, jumping to turn to face North, South, East and West.

We walked a different direction to the woods, to plant a section of new hedge. The children each planted a blackthorn sapling, and protected it from rabbits and deer grazing with a stick and tree guard.

They learned to identify the blackthorn by its thorns, blueberries in the autumn and white blossom in the spring. They will be back throughout the year and years to check on their success and see the year round cycle of its growth.

Once in the woods, the children set out to explore their individual interests. At the end of the session, they shared what they had enjoyed and engaged in.

"I liked weaving"

"I liked building dens with my friends"

"I made a bag rack from a branch and a root"

"I liked climbing and balancing on the

ropes"

"I was unblocking the stream and digging out mud and leaves, it was fun"

"I like using the maps and compass"

"I loved the hedge planting"

"I liked making a clay sculpture of a rabbit"

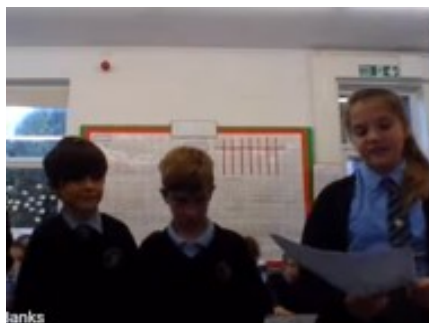
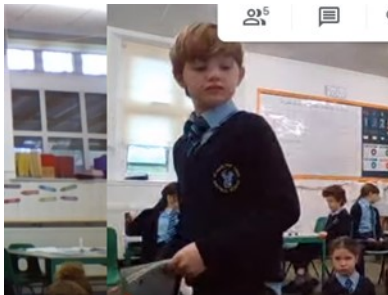
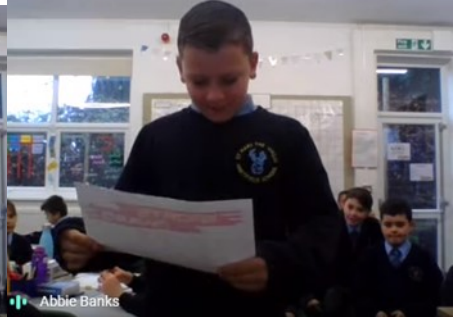
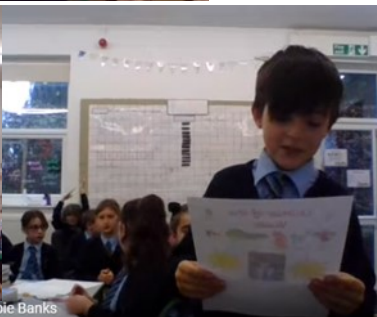
"I liked reading my book at Forest School"



A massive thanks to the Woodland Trust for the hedge plants and to our brilliant volunteers who support the children to allow them to go to Forest School every week!

Celebration Assembly

Every Friday morning we have our virtual Celebration assembly as a whole school! It's a brilliant opportunity to see the whole school together and lovely to see the children waving to their friends in other classes. We celebrate those who have been on Blue or the Star during the week, as well as giving out Learner of the Week, Sports Star, British Citizen and awarding the Reading Cup and Attendance Ted to the winning class. We finish each assembly with cheering a big happy birthday to those who have celebrated birthdays in the week - it's the best way to start a Friday morning.



St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School, Hartfield, East Sussex, TN7 4AA

Tel: 01892 770221 Email: office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk Website: www.pioneerfederation.co.uk

Present : Kerry Powell (KP), Andy Thurman (AT), Frances Brunson (FB), Lou Munn (LM), Anita Emery (AE), Rachel Reid (RR), Chantel Pepperrell (CP)

74. Apologies

None

75. Minutes of previous meeting

The signing off of the accounts is to be done this week with Anita and Rachel as they were the accounts from the previous year. There were no other outstanding action points.

76. Welcome to new committee

Info on Charity Commission

AT gave info on the above and advised that the old trustees for the Charity Commission had been taken off and the new ones added.

GDPR

FB explained what the GDPR forms were for, and asked that the new members completed and signed it so it can be filed with the PTFA paperwork. AT would print 2 copies off and hand them to Tom and Kerry.

Parentkind

FB explained what Parentkind was and advised that we also get our insurance through them. As long as the number of children at school is below 100 we don't have to pay a higher rate for our insurance.

LM confirmed that the current number is 94. **Action point : FB to get the new committee members added on, as it is a very useful resource.**

PTFA Gmail account

FB advised that we have a Gmail account for the PTFA, and it is useful in any formal correspondence rather than us using our own personal email addresses. It is checked by FB or AT currently and anyone should be able to access it if they require. We also confirmed that we have information in a Dropbox account which can also be accessed by all.

77. Update on finances by treasurer including information on changing bank account

All the kit has now been paid for from Mr D's wishlist.

It has been discussed that the PTFA will look to move away from the current CAF bank account that we have, as they charge us a fee of £5 per month, and it is due to go up to £8 per month from January 2021, which over the year is almost £100, which is money that could be spent in school. **Action point : AT is to look into the options for providing a similar service but with no fees.**

78. Amazon Smile and Easyfundraising

The Smile request has gone out on the School newsletter and Whats App groups, but only around 16 people have signed up for it. It was agreed that we could have another push at it. **Action point : AT to send out Mailchimp digest to people. Action point : KP and FB to put something out on Whats App and newsletter for this week.** Easyfundraising currently has 64 supporters, but you can't see who has signed up, and as this was promoted some years ago, and people have left the school and new people arrived, it was thought that this should also be pushed. Currently £1502 has been raised through EF. **Action point: RR to chase up Annette to see if she can add this to any purchases that the school make.**

79. Second-hand clothes rail and Mufti day

Around £30 was taken from the 2nd hand rail since September and £80 was raised from the recent mufti day. It was thought that having the rail out weekly was more effort than it was worth, as people weren't coming weekly and we would arrange for the rail to come out the 1st Wednesday back after each half term. The next date would be 6/1/21. This needs to be advertised via Whats App to remind parents of when it will be available. If people do need something outside of these times, then they can ask to see the rail at anytime.

80. Spend for 2020/21

There is no specific update for the spend as of yet.

81. Fundraising for 2020/21

Due to the constraints of Covid, fundraising this year and next is much more complicated. It was thought that we could have a Zoom quiz evening. The date that has been set is Friday 22/1/21. AT and RR are to be on the sub committee for this. Parentkind have already done the quiz so it would be a case of promoting it and setting up the call with the possibility of break out rooms. Phil Reid has set up a quiz app which we could utilise and there is a donation option button at the end of the quiz for people to donate money. The Cove has kindly agreed a prize. There was also the possibility of a virtual wine tasting event. FB has made contact with a friend in the wine trade industry who has emailed back possibilities of how this would run. **Action point: FB to email committee with the email to discuss running this.** KP has had a great idea of setting up some Christmas box items for sale. There was much discussion as to how this would work and how monies would be paid. There is to be a sub committee to arrange this of CP, RR, KP and Katie Schrieber. It was thought that with the unpredictability of lockdowns that it would be done by pre order with payment through BACS, there may need to be an additional risk assessment if food is distributed through school. **Action point : KP to check with Miss Hare on this.**

82. AOB

AT mentioned about the money class pots as they haven't been done yet this year. **Action point : AT to email the bursar to arrange this.** We have also set the dates for the formal termly meetings for the year and these dates are : **24/2/21 and 7/7/21.**

83. Date of next meeting 13th January 2021

Well Being Poster

The last couple of posters have looked at maintaining our mental health, this week we look at physical health and 10 ways to make exercise a habit!

