



# St Mary the Virgin Church of England CE Primary School

Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AA

Executive Headteacher: Mr James Procter

Co-Heads of School: Mrs Becca Bastin and Mrs Abbie Hill

Email: [office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk)



Term 3 Week 3

Friday 20th January

## School Value and Weekly Reflection

Each term, we focus on a Christian Value with weekly reflection in assembly and in class. We would like to develop this further by asking you to discuss the reflection of the week with your child(ren) at home.

Our value for this term is Courage,



**Courage**

This week, we learnt about the bravery of Mordecai – a man in the bible who protected someone and had to be incredibly brave in doing so. We thought about all the things that make us 'us'.

Think about words that describe your family and then think about the values or things about them that you wouldn't be prepared to change if someone asked you to (from supporting another football team, eating meat or being unkind to people).

## French Praise



Mrs Newland feels the children are progressing so well in French she has introduced 'praise cards'. This week, the praise cards go to:

**Kate:** for working with enthusiasm and making great progress.

**Reece:** for being enthusiastic and polite in lessons and always trying his best.

**Troy:** for actively contributing to lessons and using prior knowledge to help with language development

**Freddie:** who is working well in French and is always enthusiastic to volunteer answers.

**Kaya:** who is a curious learner who makes links to previous learning and asks thoughtful questions.

**Abbie:** answering questions in French

**Amelie:** who pays really good attention in class.

**Nicco:** for great enthusiasm and home learning.

**Jacob:** for bravery in putting up hand give answers.

**Lucas:** for focus and willingness to volunteer answers.

**Très Bien!**

## Top Tips

Emails and letters sent home this week:

### **Lilac Class**

- Dodgeball Tournament (selected)
- Class trip

### **Whole School:**

- Census Day Lunch Swap
- Update School Lunch Menu and Sandwiches
- Red Butler Music School



### **ParentPay**

Please would you pop onto ParentPay to check/update your account, especially if you need to catch up with instalments for swimming and Lilac class residential.

## Attendance

The Pioneer Federation goal is an average attendance rate of 97%, recognising that each school day provides opportunities for learning, as well as social and emotional development. It is noticeable when students miss school as it impacts on their progress.



**Whole school: week: 96.1%**

**year: 94.1%**

**Maple: 93.6%**

**Cherry: 93.9%**

**Willow: 99.1%**

**Lilac: 96.8%**

**Less than 94.9% - Red**

**95 to 96.4% - Amber**

**96.5 to 99.9% - Green**

**100% - Gold**

**Well done, Willow Class!**

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.



## St Mary's Star Skills

"Skills for learning, skills for life"



Each week, one pupil from each class is identified for their 'star skills' development. Staff and other pupils share their observations of the week, which are then recognised in Celebration Assembly on Fridays.

With so many Star Skills developing, we choose one each week to highlight in the Newsletter.

**Finlay:** has shown brilliant **positivity**, having a great attitude to his work and is a great example to his friends with his positive attitude.

**Nicco:** has demonstrated fantastic **problem solving** this week, calculating the perimeter of various 2D shapes in maths!

**Thomas:** has been fabulous at **aiming high**. Without fail he applies his very best and remains focussed throughout a task.

**Alfred:** has shown amazing **listening skills** listening so carefully to the story of the Naughty Bus he was able to tell it to others!

Next week, we will be looking at how Kaya, Abbie, Lilly-Mae and Tuppence develop their skills.

### Sports Award

This week, sports awards go to

**Beau:** for wonderful control and balance during gymnastics.

**Evalyn:** for great agility, flexibility and control whilst balancing in gymnastics!

**Jay-J:** for excellent balancing, demonstrating great flexibility, strength and control in gymnastics.

**Ida:** for a great range of movement and controlled balancing during gymnastics.



Well done to you all!



### Reading Reward Scheme

Our Whole School Reading Reward Scheme will continue with your ongoing support required to tot up the minutes read at home. Please add additional comments in the reading records if required. Reading Records are checked each week and minutes counted for the House total.



This week's results:

**Rother:** 917 minutes

**Teise:** 810 minutes

**Cuckmere:** 952 minutes

**Medway:** 990 minutes

**Well done, Medway!**

### Dates for your Diary

#### January

24th: Willow Class - Swimming

24th: Coffee Afternoon - Behaviour and Attendance at Park Mead School  
2:00pm - 3:00pm

26th: Toast for World in Need - 10:30am

26th: Lilac Class - Forest School

31st: Willow Class - Swimming

#### February

2nd: Maple Class - Forest School

2nd: Lilac Class Assembly - 9:15am

2nd: Community Café 2:00pm - 4:00pm

7th: Dodgeball Tournament - Chiddingly

8th: Online Safety Day

9th: Mufti Day - bring £1, wear non uniform

9th: Maple Class - Forest Row Fire Station

9th: Cherry Class - Hands on History

9th: Willow Class Assembly - 9@15am

9th: PTFA Disco 3:30pm

9th: FGB Meeting

10th: Last Day Term 3

**No School**

20th: First Day Term 4

20th: Prayer Meeting - 2:45pm in Church

22nd: Ash Wednesday Service Church  
9:30am

23rd: Maple Class - Forest School

23rd: Willow Class Bake Sale

24th: Willow Class Bake Sale

### Toast for WIN - Thursday 26th January

To further encourage the children at St Mary's to consider others and the world around them we are excited to announce that as a school, St Mary's will now be supporting World in Need

**World in Need (WIN)** is a Christian charity whose mission is to feed the hungry and help the poor. They currently work in ten countries across the world including Kenya, The Philippines and India.

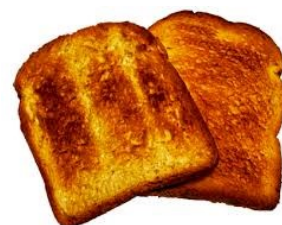
As a school, throughout the year we will be raising funds to support their feeding programme, which seeks to offer children a well-balanced and nutritional meal daily.



Each month, our Pupil Governors will hold a 'Toast for WIN' session where they will offer toast and jam to all children in school in return for a small donation. We suggest 50p, but anything from 10p to £1 would be fantastic.

Donate to World in Need at Thursday morning break and have a scrumptious piece of warming toast in return.

If you would like to know more: [worldinneed.org.uk](http://worldinneed.org.uk)



### School Clubs

**FREE MUSIC LESSON AT SCHOOL**

YouTube MEET THE TUTORS HERE! UKULELE GUITAR YouTube MEET THE TUTORS HERE!

**BOOK A FREE LESSON ON ANY OF THESE INSTRUMENTS!**

[WWW.RBMSMUSIC.COM](http://WWW.RBMSMUSIC.COM)

If you would like to try out guitar or ukulele lessons, Red Butler Music School are offering a free taster session. To sign up visit their [website](http://website) or call 01273 805666



### School Clubs

After school **Tennis Club** started again last week and are looking for new members. Currently there are five on role and we need one more to ensure it is viable to continue. Running from 3.20pm - 4.20pm on Wednesdays each week, the children have a fantastic time earning 'pegs' towards a termly prize!

If you are interested in joining please contact Jon Prenelle, (Director of Kent & Sussex Tennis, LTA Level 4, PTR Pro, USPTA Pro, RPT Pro Coach) by phone/whatsapp: 07464972681/07495368571, or by email: [kentandsussextennis@outlook.com](mailto:kentandsussextennis@outlook.com)





## Forest School - Thursday 19th January



It was another cold and frosty afternoon as Willow walked to the woods. They shared details of the 'Welly Walk' they had been on, on Wednesday. The children were particularly excited by the ice; noticing icicles, frozen puddles and ice crystals on lots of the grass, plants and trees. There was lots of enjoyment and satisfaction with treading on frozen patches and listening to the sounds of the frozen ground and ice breaking.



This term Willow Class' learning journey is all about Roald Dahl, so we started the afternoon with a story; 'Billy and the Minpins'. It is about Billy exploring the deep dark woods and discovering creatures living in the trees. The children looked and listened to the woodland environment around them as they listened to the story, to enrich their imagination.



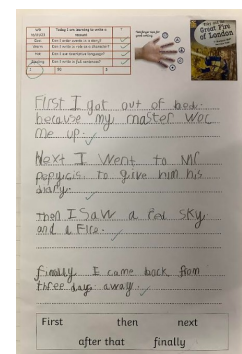
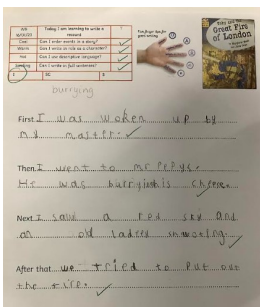
The children used the story as inspiration for creative play and had a go at creating characters with small hazel sticks. They went off around the woodland to create houses and villages for their characters to live. The children used natural materials they had found; bark, lichen, fungi, logs, moss, leaves and sticks. Some even made some signs for their houses.





## Weekly Peek

This week we take a peek into Maple Class and Cherry Class!



This term **Cherry Class** have been captivated by our history topic *The Great Fire of London*. The children have really impressed us with how much information and detail they have absorbed about the events that took place in the September of 1666.

As part of our learning, we have looked at a range of books relating the facts in various ways such as through fiction and non fiction texts as well as from different points of view. We have enjoyed *Toby and The Great Fire of London* by Margaret Nash and Jane Cope.

We began by answering questions about the story and ordering events verbally practising language linked to recounting, such as

*First...Then...Next... Finally...*

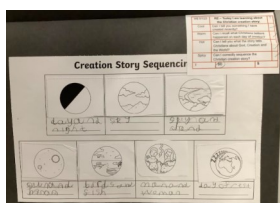
Then we focused on imagining we were Toby and used our senses to describe what we might have seen, heard and smelled. By the end of the week we were able to write full sentences recounting the story and using lots of descriptive language.

Cherry Class have also been very excited to create art work linked to our topic. We have looked at the work of the artist David Best who built a giant wooden structure to represent the buildings in the period of The Great Fire of London before setting it alight to commemorate the event in 1666. First,

we created artwork inspired by this installation using layers of tissue paper to create various depths of colour. This week, we progressed to creating secondary colours by mixing primary colours. We created our own colour wheel to learn about the relationship between colours including warm and cool colours. We used this knowledge to create different tones of red, orange and yellow to represent flames.

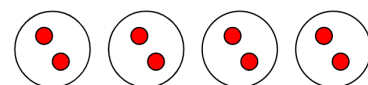
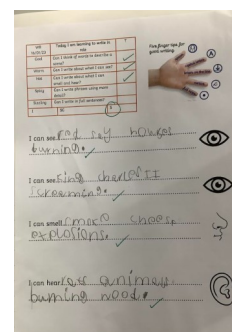
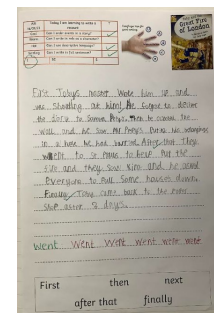
Our brains have been exercised well this week with all

the fantastic maths. Children in Year 1 have been practising to use the language fewer, smallest, greater and most to order groups of objects as well as numbers from smallest to greatest and vice versa. They have also been practising to use the inequality signs  $<$   $>$   $=$  to compare numbers to 20. Year 2 have progressed to multiplication and began by recognising equal groups of objects arranged in arrays before creating their own arrays. They have been learning to understand that arrays can be represented as repeated addition as well as multiplication. For example, here is an array that represents 4 groups of 2. It can also be written as  $2 + 2 + 2 + 2$  or  $4 \times 2$



In RE we have been learning about how Christians believe God created the world. We have ordered the days of the creation story and learned about how Christians show thanks to God through prayer. We have also reflected on the things that we are thankful for and the different ways we might show thanks.

In Science we have been learning about animals which hibernate. We talked about why animals hibernate and how they prepare for hibernation. It was very cold this week so we could empathise! In PSHE we have been setting ourselves challenges and thinking about what steps we need to take to be successful - in teams we wrote down our thoughts. We chose to either count to 10 in Mandarin or learn the Macarena dance.





## Weekly Peek

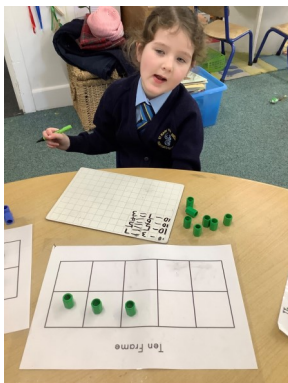
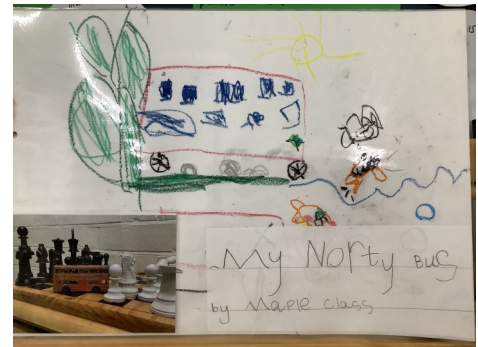
This week has been **Wheel Week** in **Maple Class**! All of the children have brought in a bicycle or a scooter and have



had lots of fun riding around the playground, exchanging vehicles and negotiating cones. The skill levels have been astounding! Finn lent Bo his bike and she has learned to ride without stabilisers for the first time!



We have been immersing ourselves in the story of the Naughty Bus, a wonderful book by Jerry and Jan Oke. The children chose lots of different places to locate the bus (in the bug house, on the chess set, by the fish tank etc) and then did some wonderful writing to create our own Maple Class version of the book.

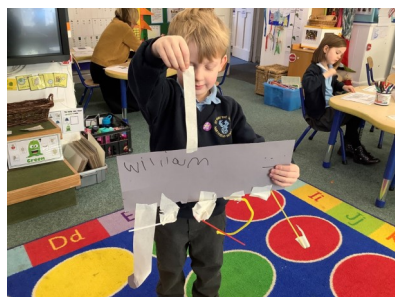


In maths, we have started to work on subtraction. The children have been using lots of practical manipulatives to subtract quantities from ten. They have become really familiar with using a tens frame and have started to write number sentences with some proficiency.

Prompted by the idea of circular tyres, we have been creating some Kandinsky inspired paintings. We looked at some of Kandinsky's work and talked about his fascination with colour mixing. We also shared the book



'Mouse Paint' and the children loved hearing about how the mice created different secondary colours from dancing in primary colours. We then worked on our own paintings!



Finally, we have been using lots of junk modelling materials to create our own vehicles. The children were so imaginative, creating boats, bicycles and rockets to name just a few!



Maple Class have really enjoyed the effect of the cold weather. They have been investigating the ice all week with great engagement. Well done for such a busy, interesting week.





## Welly Walk

Willow class had a fantastic time on their Welly Walk on Wednesday. It was a cold and frosty morning, but we were wrapped up warm against the cold. The Welly Walk was a follow up session to a previously delivered lesson by Rachel from High Weald Heroes. The children found it interesting to see the areas of history that we had previously discussed as we walked through the familiar landscape.



We were on the lookout for deer prints, having learnt that Henry VIII used to hunt locally, and the children took the time to hug an oak tree after spotting many oak trees on our walk, these brought the Anglo Saxon drovers to the area on their way to market to fatten up their pigs on fallen acorns. We also stopped and played some games in the woods where the children practised being as still as possible to hide from the hunters as if they were deer.



As we walked, we took note of our surroundings and many of the children were keen to notice the changes that the hard frost had brought. There was much stomping of icy puddles and careful examination of the different ice patterns on leaves and plants.



Amelie was an absolute eco warrior and decided to collect litter as she walked, as she was sad to see it in the countryside. Her industriousness prompted others to join in – and we left the habitat a better one than we found.



### Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III bank holiday

An additional bank holiday in honour of the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III will take place on **Monday 8 May 2023**. Schools and further education providers are not expected to remain open, treated as any normal bank holiday.

As this date had previously been announced as the first day of the 2023 key stage 2 (KS2) test week in England, a change to the KS2 test schedule is necessary.

Ministers have considered the situation and decided that KS2 tests will take place in the same week with tests following the usual order, but each taking place one day later than originally planned.

As such, the new schedule will be:

- Tuesday 9 May: English grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS) papers 1 (questions) and 2 (spelling)
- Wednesday 10 May: English reading paper
- Thursday 11 May: mathematics papers 1 (arithmetic) and 2 (reasoning)
- Friday 12 May: mathematics paper 3 (reasoning)

### Wildlife Explorers

Following the understanding gained last week regarding how destructive balloons can be to the environment this week our Wildlife Explorers have looked into other ways to celebrate important occasions with their favourite option being 'bubbles'.



This week, members made seed bombs from clay, compost and flower seeds ready to throw them out and wait until an unexpected small explosion of flowers appear in the Spring.

They also finished off their potting up of cuttings, exploring how to regrow plants for next to nothing!



In Celebration Assembly, the club presented a study of how they will contribute to reducing single use plastics in and around school. Hopefully we won't find too much plastic litter from the caring pupils and parents of St Marys!



### Opportunity

[Open for Parents](#) offer support with various online courses for parents.

They support with our variety of online courses, each with specific tips on how you can deal with the most common behaviour problems; and best of all, these evidence-based methods have already been successful in supporting families worldwide through times of crisis.

**Parenting Guide | East Sussex**  
**What's On – Jan, Feb, March**  
**2023**

**Early Help 0-19**  
Respect | Partnership | Strength



Simply choose the support you would like to access, email with which course you would like to attend to:  
[EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk)



## Wellbeing Poster

This week we our well being poster looks at Sleep.

Good sleep **improves your brain performance, mood, and health**. Not getting enough quality sleep regularly raises the risk of many diseases and disorders. These range from heart disease and stroke to obesity and dementia.

The NHS states: *Sleep is especially important for children and young people because **it helps with mental, physical, social and emotional development**. Sleep helps our brains to remember, memorise and analyse important information. These skills improve performance at school. Sleep can also affect our mood.*



The following is taken from [The Sleep Charity website](https://www.sleepcharity.org.uk/):

### Children's sleep problems

The most common issues children have a bedtime: setting, changes in routine, bed wetting, fear/anxiety, sensory issues, feeling hungry or thirsty, discomfort.

### Bedtime Routines

Bedtime routine is important in getting a good night's sleep. A routine helps support children's body clocks and aids relaxation.

### Bedroom Environment

The bedroom environment plays an important role in getting a good night's sleep. Decorate with neutral colours and put away toys and gadgets. Check the room temperature and ensuring a dark environment aids melatonin production.

### Relaxation

Feeling relaxed is important in the run up to bedtime for both parent and child. Youngsters often pick up on levels of stress so try to create a relaxing and calm environment. Turn off all screens an hour before bedtime and set aside time earlier in the day to enable children to share any worries. Dim lights, fine motor activities (craft or jigsaws), massage and classical music can aid relaxation.

### Diet & Sleep

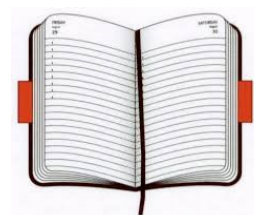
What we consume during the day can impact on our ability to sleep at night. A light snack in the hour before bedtime may be helpful for some children, but avoid heavy meals last thing at night. It is best to avoid processed and natural sugar and caffeine (which can also be found in hot chocolate and fizzy drinks).

### Melatonin

Melatonin is a naturally occurring hormone that is produced by the brain and it plays an important role in supporting the body's circadian rhythm and promoting restful sleep. The best way of ensuring optimal melatonin production is to ensure the environment is as dark as possible and in the run up to bedtime, dim the lights and avoid screen time.

### Children with SEND

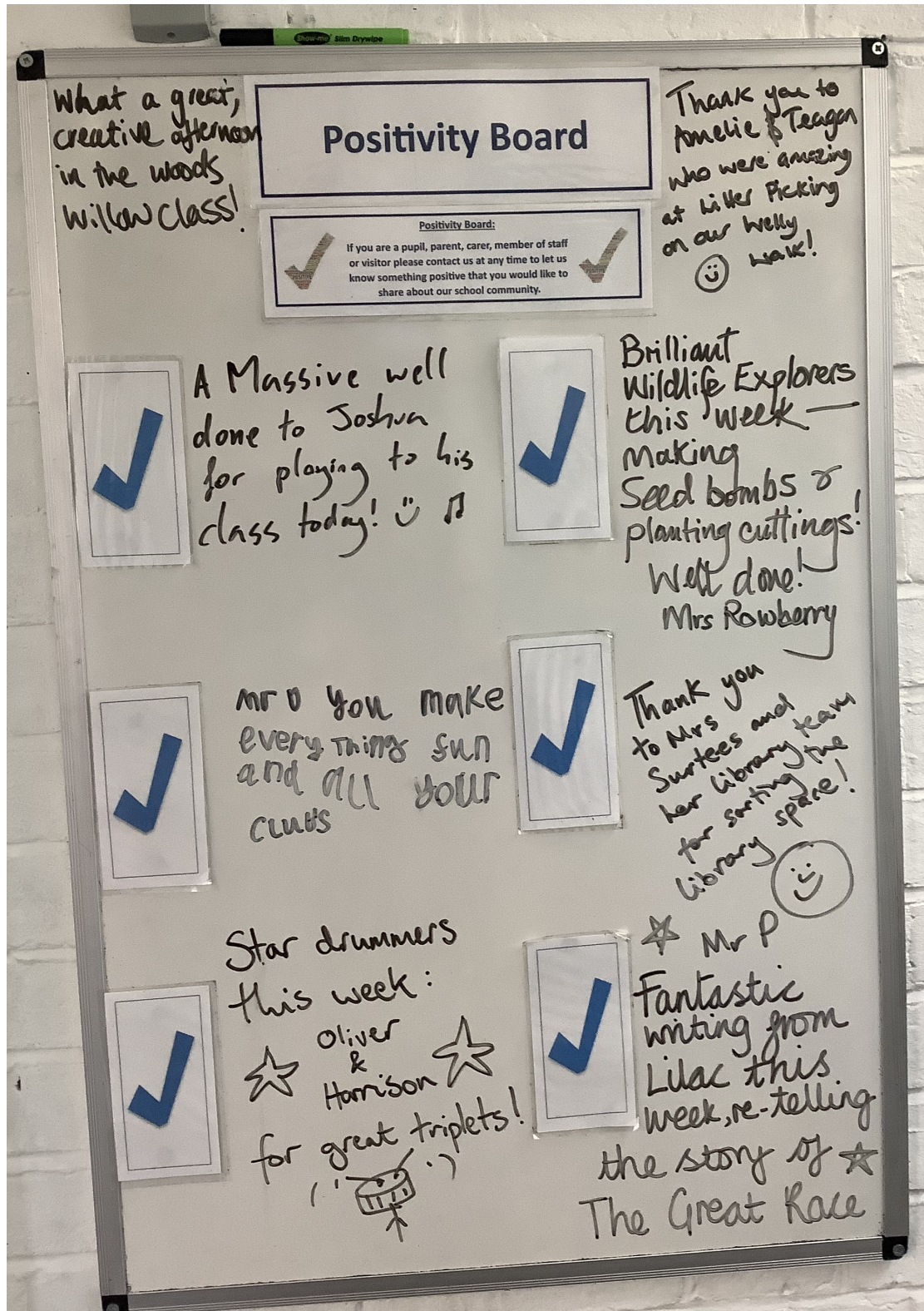
Whether struggling to communicate how they feel, having increased anxiety, sensory issues or social clueing problems, sleep may well be difficult. Explore reason for the sleep issues, keep a sleep diary, use visual aids to support understanding and ensure your child is in a reassuring routine, going to bed at the same time every night.



## Positivity Board

This board enables us to write positive comments, or thoughts, from parents, carers, staff, children and visitors that they would like to share with others about the school, their classes, the children or events.

Please contact us at any time to let us know something that you would like to share. In the newsletter every week, there will be a picture to share and celebrate the positivity within our school.





Opportunities at St Mary the Virgin Church

## Connect@5

In Church

12th Jan  
26th Jan  
9th Feb  
2nd March  
16th March  
30th March  
EASTER

5-6.30pm  
Games, Food, Bible study

For more information contact  
Kate Dillingham (Children's and  
youth worker-St Mary's Church,  
Hartfield) at  
katedillingham97@gmail.com

St Mary's Church  
Hartfield

Year 5 and up

## LITTLE STARS

Parent & toddler group  
Every Monday @ St Mary's  
Church, Hartfield



9.15 to 10.45am  
Tea & Coffee provided

1st & 3rd Sundays, 9.30am

## SUNDAY Discoverers

From ages  
3-6 & 7-11  
years old

### Dates of Sunday Discoverers this term

15th Jan  
5th Feb  
5th March  
2nd April  
16th April

Join us as we look at  
the **WHOLE** Bible in  
**ONLY 5 sessions!**



Come with us as we learn about God and what  
he made. What he promised us to help us fix  
our **BIG** problem....

You are invited to

## Knights of the King

Feb 16th-17th 2023

St Mary's Church, Hartfield

10am-3pm £15 Primary school age

<https://knightsofthekinghartfield.eventbrite.co.uk>

Signed,

Knight Kate of Hartfield

Limited Numbers  
For more information contact: katedillingham97@gmail.com