



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

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Term 4 Week 1

Friday 24th February

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 values for this term are Forgiveness and Hope.



Forgiveness

This week, we looked at the statement:

It takes a strong person to say sorry, and an even stronger person to forgive.

(Anon)

The Courageous Advocacy question for the term is 'How and why does it take courage to forgive?' Can you think as a family when you have needed to forgive one another and the courage required?

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: **93.6%**
year: **94.2%**

Maple: **98.2%** Cherry: **92.1%**
Willow: **89.6%** Lilac: **96.4%**

Less than 94.9% - Red 95 to 96.4% - Amber
96.5 to 99.9% - Green 100% - Gold

Well done, Maple Class!



Top Tips

Emails and letters sent home this week:

Whole School:

- World Book Day
- Shrove Tuesday
- Proposed National Strike
- Book Fair
- Parent Consultations

Lilac Class

- T4 Homework

Welcome Back

We hope you all had a lovely half term and are looking forward an exciting new term.



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: 790 minutes
Teise: 1,053 minutes
Cuckmere: 1,182 minutes
Medway: **1,446 minutes**

Well done, Medway!



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"



Star Skills

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 developing, we choose one star skill each week for the Newsletter.

Esrah: has shown brilliant **leadership skills** in her responsibility as a Librarian! She and her team have done an amazing job sorting all of the books into book bands and categories.

Lucas W: has a fantastic approach to **staying positive**, taking great pride in his work and always taking time with his presentation. His Fact File on Tree Frogs was amazing.

Bertie: has been fabulous in his **aiming high** this week, working really hard to apply his phonics sounds to writing words!

Henry: has displayed brilliant **team work** this week, working with his friends to create a wonderful 'water tunnel' using lots of canvas and pegs.

Next week we will be looking at how Jared, Rory, Oliver O and Ida develop their skills.

Sports Award

This week, sports awards go to

Troy: for creative and imaginative gymnastic sequencing individually and in paired work.



Dylan: for excellent hand to eye co-ordination and control demonstrated during tennis.

Isaac: for great listening skills, following instructions and maximum participation in PE.



Dates for your Diary

February

28th: Willow Class Swimming

March

1st: Lilac Class - Preston Manor

2nd: World Book Day

2nd: Cherry Class - Forest School

2nd: Community Café 2:00pm - 4:00pm

3rd: Celebration Assembly 9:15am

7th: Willow Class Swimming

7th: Cherry Class - Assembly

7th: Parent Consultations 3:30pm - 6:00pm

9th: Parent Consultations 3:30pm - 6:00pm

10th: Celebration Assembly 9:15am

10th: Pioneer Gymnastics Tournament

14th: Willow Class - Swimming

16th: Willow Class - Forest School

16th: Community Café 2:00pm - 4:00pm

17th: Celebration Assembly 9:15am

21st: Maple Class - Assembly

22nd: Maple Class - Hever Castle

23rd: Y5/6 Girls Football Tournament - Bedes

23rd: Lilac Class - Forest School

23rd: Cherry Class - Bake Sale 3:15pm

24th: Celebration Assembly 9:15am

24th: Cherry Class - Bake Sale 3:15pm

27th: FGB Meeting 5pm - 7pm

29th: Palm Sunday Service 9:30am - 10:00am

30th: Toast for World in Need

30th: Maple Class and Buddies - Forest School

31st: End of Term Service Church 2:30pm

31st: Last day Term 4



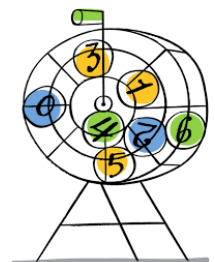
April

17th: First Day Term 5

Bingo Ball

The PTFE Bingo Ball was drawn this morning.

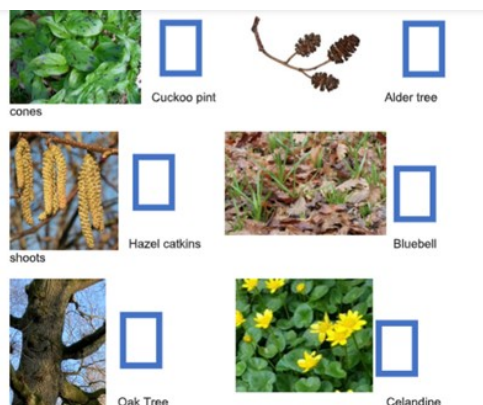
The winner of the monthly £50 prize is ball number 22.



Forest School - Thursday 23rd February

On the way to the woods Maple Class started to spot the signs of spring. The children all played a game of

'You are only safe' to help them start to identify some of the signs of spring emerging. We saw crocuses, snowdrops, daffodils and had a go at learning to identify the cuckoo pint plant.



The class had a sheet as reference-spotting for the signs of spring and shared their careful observations as they walked along the path to the woods.

At the bridge the children acted out the story of 'The Billy Goats Gruff'. They were very good at explaining the story and the repeated refrains of:

"Who's that trip-trapping over my bridge?"!



Maple Class then continued their session by talking about the story they have been reading in class this week, 'The Three Little Pigs', including the different materials the houses were made of and how, why and if they were good materials for house building. The children thought about the vocabulary they had used in their science lesson to describe materials and shared some more words to describe the woods.

"... crunchy leaves, colourful, beautiful flowers, spiky brambles, scratchy hay, squishy mud, hard wood, bumpy, elephant oak trees, orangey water, silvery tree..."

The children then had a go at using straw, sticks and clay to explore with, many of them making nests for birds with the hay and taking the spades and forks to the stream to dig up the mud. There was also time to play in the stream, swing on the swings and the hammock. The children added fresh seeds to their bird feeders which they had made during their last session.

This week the children shared what they had enjoyed about the session as we left the woods.

*"I liked digging...I like swinging high in the hammock...I liked playing with the birds...
I like being the billy goat gruff"*

Well done Maple Class, and a massive thanks to our lovely volunteers who make our sessions possible by supporting the children in the woods.

Lunchtime Clubs

Alongside the after school clubs and music sessions run by outside agencies, we also have lunchtime clubs run by school volunteers and members of staff:



Wildlife Explorers will continue on Tuesday lunch time for Y1 - Y6.

The children get involved in 'all things wildlife' from issues affecting our planet, to local energy consumption, plants, insects and birds.

Mrs Rowberry also encourages engagement in competitions, national surveys and work towards young leader awards.

We need to ensure that a clear register is provided to Mrs Rowberry so if you would like to arrange attendance please email the school office.

Discoverers plus is a lunchtime club run by Kate Dillingham (youth worker from church) on Wednesdays for all ages. At this club, they read a bible story, sometimes about a Giant of faith as such David (as in David and Goliath), sometimes about the amazing miracles Jesus did. They play games and make things, such as loop band bracelets or a craft to do with the story. They pack a lot into their 30 minutes, but have lots of fun while doing it! Again, we need to provide a clear

register so if you would like to arrange attendance please email the school office



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM!

Mindful Art Club, again for all ages is run by Kay Carpenter on Thursday lunchtimes on the playground (unless wet). A different activity is completed each week and runs on a 'drop in' basis so if any child feels the need for a calm moment during lunch play or a desire to express themselves through the art projects on offer they can choose to join on a week by week basis.



Lego Club, runs on Friday lunchtimes and is for all ages. Supervised by Kay Carpenter the children show fantastic imagination, creating amazing structures and developing skills in collaboration and sharing. This group runs on a 'drop in' basis and is available for all children to join when and if they choose.



World In Need

To increase the children's understanding of the charity we are supporting this year, we had a visit from David and Anne from World in Need headquarters to take a whole school assembly which coincided with our second Toast for WIN morning.



It was a very 'hands on' assembly and involved much interaction from the children making it really hit home just how lucky we are to have access to a range of food in our daily lives. Anne and David were very impressed with the range of questions that the children asked about the work they do, and were very grateful for our ongoing support, which will have a massive impact on the lives of the children they support.



After assembly it was time for toast and it was enlightening to learn that the amount we have raised in just two months (£65) is enough to support one child in one of the schools in which they work, to have food for an entire year!



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.

Our next 'Toast for WIN' will be on Thursday 30th March.

If you would like to know more: worldinneed.org.uk

In total we raised £30 this month for World in Need. Thank you.

Willow Class - Swimming

Willow Class went swimming each Tuesday of Term 3 and will continue until the end of Term 4. Following many years of using the same pool, we have moved to Fermor School under the tutorledge of Elliott from Heathfield Swim School. Miss Surtees has sent an update of how its been going:

Swimming in Willow Class continues to be a highlight of the week and all of Willow staff have been impressed with the progress that the children continue to make. Elliott, the swimming teacher, takes time to notice the small steps of progress that the children are making and uses a range of fun games to motivate and encourage the them.

It has been fantastic to see the children so enthused and be praised for their achievements. This is especially evident with the less confident swimmers who we now see are willing to try to swim independently and are working on getting their faces wet.



The children are just as enthusiastic about their lessons:

'Swimming is fun and exciting because you always do new things'

'We get to do loads of fun things at swimming'

'I am learning things that are helping me swim and I am really proud of myself'

'I like going under the water and spotting things'

'Swimming is really nice when I do it. I am enjoying it. The best bit is when I get to swim by myself'.

Well done, Willow Class. Keep it up!

Celebration from Home

Cece has earnt her very own Green Blue Peter Badge which is especially for viewers who care about the environment and nature!

Richie, Mwasky, Joel and Henry sent an accompanying letter thanking Cece for getting in touch and for sharing the hard work she does recycling, saving energy and not wasting food.

Well done, Cece!



Lexia

A message from Miss Surtees:

Thank you to all children and families who are continuing to use Lexia at home. Those children who are regularly completing or exceeding their expected time on Lexia are making fantastic progress. The impact that this has on their reading and spelling skills in class is huge. Lexia can be completed with no adult support. If you would like to come and chat with me about Lexia, or see the data regarding your child's progress, please let me know.



Weekly Peek

This week take a peek into Maple Class.

We were all so pleased to see each other after half-term and the children enjoyed telling each other about what they had been doing. They also did some wonderful writing about it.



Our new topic this term is 'Once Upon a Time' and we are immersing ourselves in a wonderful array of fairy tales. This week we have been listening to various versions of the story of 'The Three Little Pigs' and learning all of the repeated refrains. We retold the story, using our story map and each child chose something that they wished to write to add to the map.



We then enjoyed acting out the play, using masks and some straw, wood and bricks and followed up by watching our own movies at the end of the day, whilst we ate our snack!



In maths we have been working on subtraction and embedding our understanding of odd and even numbers. We have been using Numicon to help us.



We have enjoyed building dens outside. The children worked really hard to create a 'bonfire den' to roast marshmallows in and to build a 'tunnel' for water to run through.

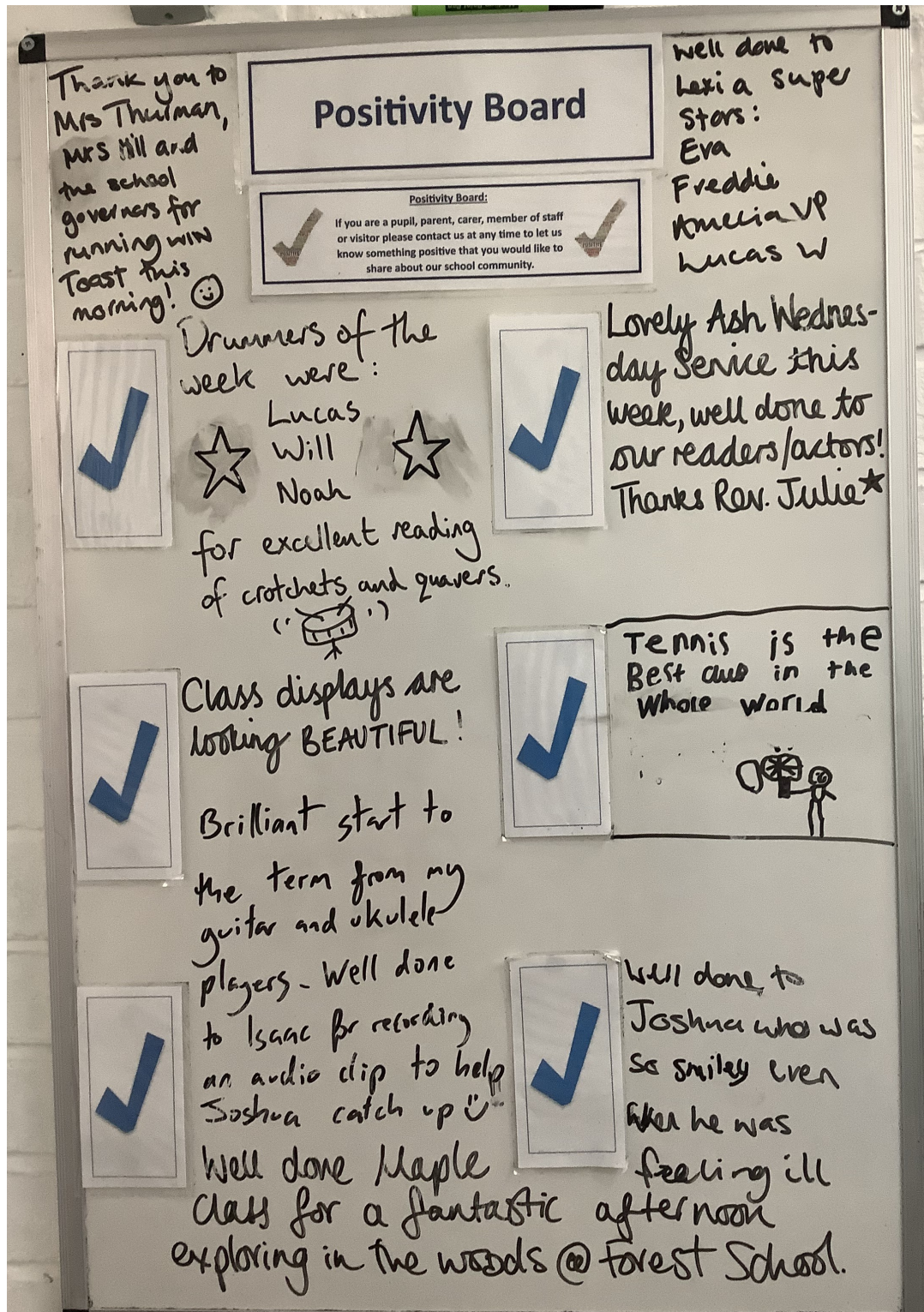


We have also loved dressing up in lots of fantastic costumes to support our play!

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.



Opportunity



An invitation from Class+, the Inclusion, Special Education Needs and Disability Services (ISEND), Children's Services, East Sussex:

'Come and join the CLASS+ team and other parents at one of our Coffee and Chat sessions.

No need to book just turn up.

These sessions are designed for parents who have an autistic child or a child on the autism pathway. We kindly ask that you don't bring small children to this session.

We look forward to seeing you'.

CLASS+ Coffee & Chat Sessions

Come and join the CLASS+ team and other parents to talk about all things **Autism**. This is a great opportunity to listen, share questions, ideas and experience with other parents. This session is designed to support parents/ carers who have an autistic child or are on the Autism pathway.

28 February, Burwash Primary School, 9:00am to 10:30am

28 February, Denton Community Primary School, 1:15pm to 2:45pm

6 March, Annecy Primary School, 9:00am to 10:30am

9 March, Robsackwood Primary Academy, 9:00am to 10:30am

13 March, Harbour Primary School, 9:00am to 10:30am

13 March, Willingdon Primary School, 9:15am to 10:30am

23 March, Hollington Primary Academy, 9:00am to 10:30am

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

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