



# St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School

Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AA

Executive Headteacher: Mr James Procter

Head of School: Mrs Jane Robinson

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Term 1 Week 6

Friday 13th October

## Headlines from our Head of School

What a wonderful Harvest Service this week - thank you to all those parents who came or donated to support the important cause of Crawley Open House, to Rev Julie for taking the service and well done to all the children for the dramatic reading/prays and beautiful singing.



We are now turning our attention to Christmas! In order to allow for two opportunities throughout the children's time at St Mary's school to be part of a big 'performance' we are moving to a EY/KS1 production and KS2 will focus on preparing carols and songs to perform at the many Christmas events over the Christmas period. This allows children to potentially have bigger acting parts and lines at the end of their time in KS1 and again at the end of KS2 as part of their leavers play.

This year at St Mary's, work is already underway to organise parts/songs and costumes for what is going to be a wonderful show by our EY and KS1 children in the Church on 12th December; called 'The Twinkly Nativity'. There will be more information to come - including the two performance times and other finer details.



The KS2 children will be invited to attend a wide range of Christmas events to sing carols including: the Christmas Fayre 11.45am on 3rd December, on the December 6th at the Christingle Service Assembly, on December 10th at Christmas Praise event, and at the Village Christmas Lunch in the Village hall on Wed 13th and not forgetting at the end of term service on 15th December at the Church.



We are already looking forward to welcoming you all to these celebrations and will share more details nearer the time!

Jane Robinson

## School Value and Weekly reflection

Each term, we focus on a Christian Value with weekly reflection in assembly and in class.

We like to develop this further by asking you, where possible, to discuss the reflection of the week with your child(ren) at home.

This term, we are looking at:



## Thankfulness

This week, we spent time being thankful for our peers and the successes we have in school.

We introduced our new peer mediators, voted for our new House Captains and celebrated the wonderful leaves produced by the children for the Art for All weekend. We are truly thankful for you all!

## Top Tips

Letters and emails home:

\* **KS2 School**

- + Bedes Multi-Sports
- + Harvest Festival

\* **Willow Class**

- + Hever Castle

WhatsApp

\* **Whole School**

- + Nativity Christmas Drawing



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.

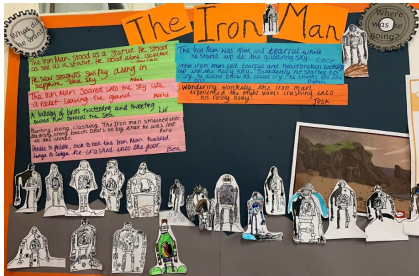
## Weekly Peek

This week, we have a 'peek' into Willow Class who have been having a super busy time.

In Maths they have furthered their understanding of addition and subtraction crossing a 100 and 1000. They have used a range of physical resources to help visualise the size of numbers with accuracy.

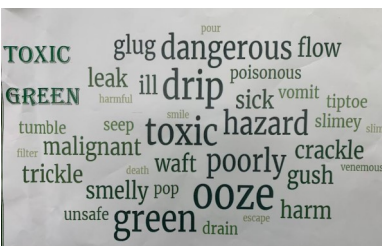


They have also worked on answering reasoning and problem solving questions by proving how they know our answer to be correct. This has instigated some interesting discussions where the children have impressed with their range of mathematical vocabulary.



In English Willow Class have continued their work on The Iron Man and have been using alliteration for impact and expanded noun phrases to create a picture in the mind of readers.

They used a drama technique called 'Conscience Alley' to imagine what a young boy called Hogarth might have thought to himself when he first saw the Iron Man. The Year Four children did a great job of modelling the type of questions that would generate a powerful piece of writing.



In music they had their first session composing a piece of music based on the colour 'Toxic Green'. They have been working on a scheme of lessons provided by the English National Opera and took inspiration from their animated pieces of work: Blue, Red and Yellow.



Previous lessons had been spent learning about the work of a composer and librettist, creating a Word Bubble for their chosen colour. This work will continue next week when words will be added to each composition.

To mark Mental Health Awareness Day, Willow Class initially discussed what mental health is and why it is so important to take care of it - just as we take care of our bodies.



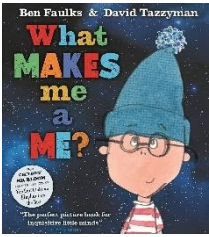
They read the wonderful book 'Find Your Happy!' and shared the different activities and solutions that can be used to help support us when experiencing emotions such as worry, anger and sadness.



Willow Class had an important discussion which led them to agreeing that some days feel great, some are just alright and some feel awful. The children enjoyed sharing their solutions to cheer up bad moments or days with each other and creating colourful and heartfelt posters.

## Mental Health Day

To mark World Mental Health Day, each class took time to reflect on what mental health is and how they can care for themselves and each other.



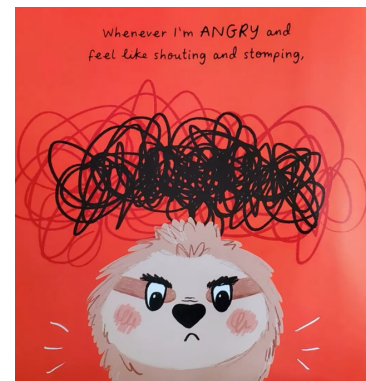
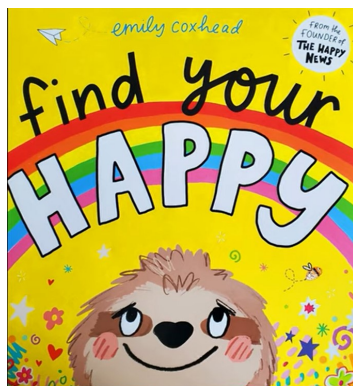
Maple Class began by listening to the story 'What Makes me a Me?' by Ben Faulks and David Tazzyman. This is a story all about a boy who is thinking about how he compares with other creatures and other things, including snails, trees and cars!

The class had a game of Fruit Salad and after an adult modelled how to play, the children took it in turns to give

each other prompts, such as 'move chairs if you like the colour yellow' etc. It was a fun way to find out a bit more about each other!

They looked at photographs of different faces with lots of different expressions on them (happy, sad, bored, angry, lost, excited) and talked about how these people might be feeling and why. The children had an opportunity to talk about what made them feel happy, if they ever needed to cheer up.

Finally, they made some mindfulness jars! The children filled the bottom of their jars with sequins and beads, stirred in some warm water, added glycerine and more warm water, some colour and some washing up liquid. After securing the lids, they were able to experiment with shaking them. We are hoping to use them in class to support us when we need cheering up or calming down.



Willow Class discussed what mental health is and why it is so important to take care of it— just as we do our bodies.

They read the wonderful book Find Your Happy! and shared the different activities and solutions we use to help support us when we experience emotions such as worry, anger and sadness.

But it's hard to feel happy all of the time. Sometimes I feel sad, angry, or worried. When I feel this way, there are things that I do to brighten my day.



The children enjoyed sharing their solutions to cheer up bad moments or days with each other and creating colourful and heartfelt posters.

## Forest School - Thursday 12th October

As soon as Maple Class were ready for Forest School they headed out on a hunt for some dry fallen leaves. They were amazing! It had been raining and they headed straight to the tarpaulin den saying: "the leaves will be dry in there". They were right and soon we had a bucket full of leaves.!



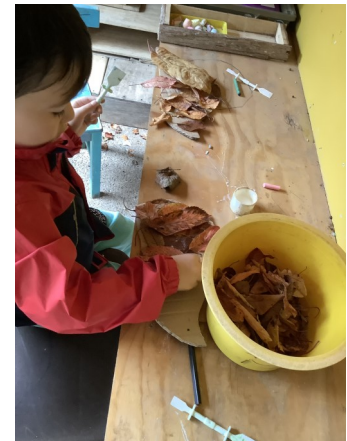
They spent some time talking about Hedgehogs: what they look like, how they would feel and if anyone has seen one in their garden.



With the leaves that they collected they then created their own Hedgehogs, using the leaves as the spikes. With all the different shapes and colours this was really effective.



Using green leaves and crayons some children created beautiful leaf rubbing pictures, placing the leaf under the paper then rubbing the crayon over the top leaving the leaf shape on the paper.



With so many conkers around Maple Class took the opportunity to create two more conker caterpillars, reinforcing the skills they had learnt earlier in the term. They remembered how to be safe when using the palm drill which can be tricky as they have to push and twist at the same time. The effort they put in to make sure the palm drill went all the way through the conker was impressive! Following a class vote, the new caterpillars have the fabulous names of Robin and Sparkles.



The children then went onto the playground with more conkers to see how far they could roll them, taking it in turns to roll one up the playground and running after it to mark how far they had managed to get it.

It was an amazing effort with some conkers almost making it to the fence!





### House Captains

A huge congratulations to our new House Captains who planned and presented a speech to the four houses prior to a vote being taken by each House to elect the captain for the year.

We look forward to you leading your Houses to great things!

Well done to you all.

### Dates for your Diary

#### **October**

- 15th: Last Day to order Tempest Photos for free delivery
- 17th: FGB virtual meeting 5:00pm - 7:00pm
- 18th: Ethos Committee meeting 12:30pm
- 19th: KS2 Bedes Multi Sports Event
- 19th: Community Café 2:00pm - 4:00pm
- 20th: Celebration Assembly 9:15am
- 20th: Last day T1
- 30th: First Day T 2

#### **November**

- 1st: School Assembly in Church 9:30am
- 2nd: Forest School - Cherry Class
- 2nd: Community Café 2:00pm - 4:00pm
- 3rd: Celebration Assembly 9:15am
- 7th: Parent Consultations 3:30pm - 6:00pm
- 8th: Remembrance Assembly 9:30am Church
- 9th: Parent Consultations 3:30pm - 6:00pm
- 10th: Celebration Assembly 9:15am
- 12th: Remembrance Service 9:45 - Church



### Forest School Dates

Forest School Dates for this academic year have now been agreed.

**Maple Class:** 16th November; 7th December; 4th January; 1st February; 22nd February; 18th April; 23rd May; 6th June; 13th June; 4th July.

**Cherry Class:** 2nd November; 11th January; 29th February; 25th April; 13th June.

**Willow Class:** 23rd November; 18th January; 14th March; 2nd May; 20th June.

**Lilac Class:** 30th November; 25th January; 21st March; 16th May; 27th June.

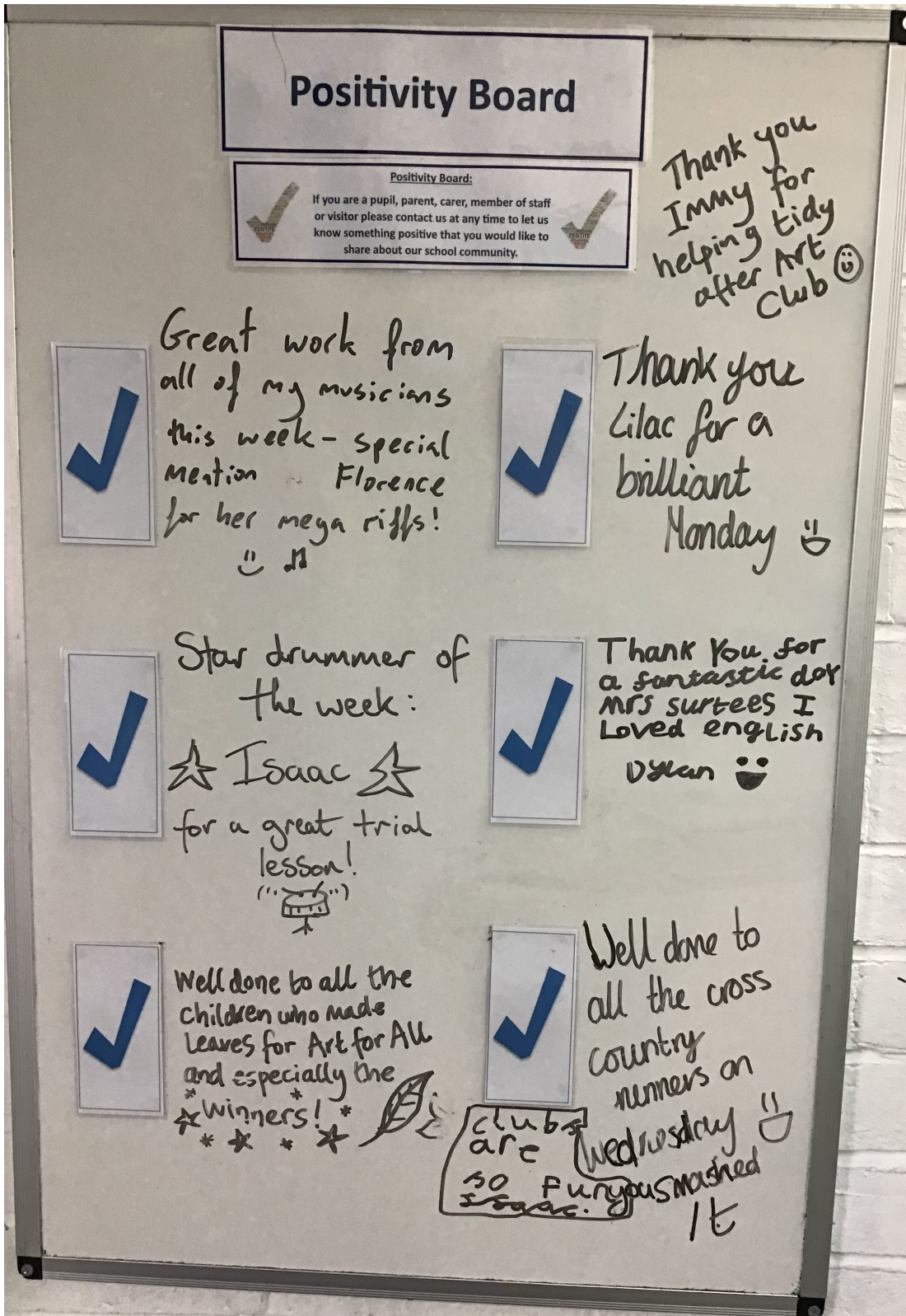


Please ensure you send your children into school equipped with footwear and clothing suitable to change into for a Forest School visit, including water and caps if sunny.

## Positivity Board

This board enables all to write positive comments, or thoughts. From parents, carers, staff, and children to all school visitors, who would like to share with others something positive about the school, their classes, the children or events.

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



**DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE DISORDER (DLD) AROUND THE WORLD**

**#DLDDAY FRIDAY**  
20TH OCTOBER 2023

**RADLD.ORG** **RADLD** RAISING AWARENESS OF DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE DISORDER




**1 IN 14 PEOPLE HAVE DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE DISORDER (DLD)**


**RADLD** RAISING AWARENESS OF DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE DISORDER **RADLD.ORG**

## DLD Developmental Language Disorder


**SIGNS OF DLD | People with DLD will often:**




find it hard to understand words, follow instructions or answer questions




struggle to find the words to express ideas




have trouble saying words in the right order, engaging in conversations or telling a story



have difficulty paying attention




experience challenges with reading and writing




struggle to remember what they have been told


**A DLD diagnosis can lead to an individual accessing supports and highlight their many strengths such as being:**




Thinkers




Creative



Social



Unique



Compassionate

## DLD Developmental Language Disorder

**1 IN 14** people have Developmental Language Disorder (DLD), an invisible, lifelong disability.

**DLD is the accepted term in English-speaking countries** replacing specific language impairment, language disorder and language delay.

DLD is a diagnosis given to a person who has difficulty talking and/or understanding language.

Diagnosis is made by a speech pathologist however a person with DLD may need support from other health professionals.

DLD affects an individual's life, regardless of their nationality and language. Speaking more than one language does not cause DLD.


DLD has a genetic and biological basis, but there is not a single known cause. DLD is not caused by how parents verbally interact with their children.

**abc 123** Children with DLD are 4 times more likely to have math disabilities and 6 times more likely to have reading disabilities.


People with DLD can succeed in life, with the right supports that meet their unique strengths and areas of need.

Co-occurring conditions can include learning difficulties, ADHD, dyslexia, and mental health issues.

Learn more about DLD at [TheDLDProject.com](http://TheDLDProject.com)



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## Opportunity



# Are you a parent or carer?

Do you have any questions or want some advice, tips or ideas to help you support your child ?

Come along to Park Mead for coffee, and an informal chat with Vickie who is a parent/carer practitioner from me & my mind.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 9.15-10.45- Anxiety and Worry

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 9.15- 10.45- Sleep, food and mood

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 9.15 - 10.45- Transitions

For more information, please speak to Sian Leahy  
SENCO



**Opportunity**

# Parent & Carer



## Online Workshops with 'Me & My Mind'

Do you want to learn about children's mental health and how you can support your child with their wellbeing?

If you do, these FREE webinars maybe for you.

### Primary School

#### Supporting Your Child with Anxiety & Worry

Tuesday 31st October 2023, 12pm to 1:30pm

Thursday 8th February 2024, 6pm to 7:30pm

#### Supporting Your Child with Transition to Secondary

Wednesday 12th June 2024, 6pm to 7:30pm

For more info and to book scan the QR code or visit:



[www.tickettailor.com/events/mentalhealthandwellbeingineducation](http://www.tickettailor.com/events/mentalhealthandwellbeingineducation)

If you have any questions please email [mhst.parentteam@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:mhst.parentteam@eastsussex.gov.uk)



All webinars are run using Microsoft Teams. You can access this on your phone or computer. You will be provided with the link when you book.



**Opportunity**

## Church Street Community Cafe

1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 2pm - 4pm.

Homemade cake, tea, and coffee.

Everyone welcome.

### upcoming dates

Thursday 5th October

Thursday 19th October

Thursday 2nd November

Thursday 16th November

For more information contact Joanne Griffin on 07941 856715 or [msjoannegriffin@gmail.com](mailto:msjoannegriffin@gmail.com)



**Don't Forget.....**

# Art for All

**11 am – 4pm Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
St Mary's Church, Hartfield, TN7 4AG**

Hartfield's annual community art event, Art for All, returns on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October in St Mary's Church, Hartfield. Free and open to all ages, everyone is encouraged to have a go at imaginative creative activities! The theme this year is Trees – a celebration of trees and their contribution to the environment.

Drop in any time, find out lots of information about trees and try as many activities as you like:

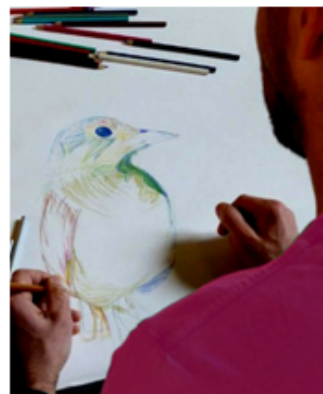
- Clothe a forest with leaves – painted leaves, origami leaves, jewelled leaves...
- Sculpt forest animals in clay – hedgehogs, beetles, dormouse....
- Play your part in a giant communal branch drawing
- Flip books – design your own flip book showing the growth of an oak tree from an acorn or a caterpillar crawling along a branch.
- Create swirly, textured tree paintings in the style of Van Gogh
- .....and there'll be tree hugging!



All the activities are free and there will be a food stall with lunch snacks and drinks (donations gratefully received). After a long break due to Covid, Art for All 2023 will be the fifth annual community art event organised by HARTS (Hartfield Arts & Theatre Society) and St Mary's Church. The day is incredibly popular with nearly 200 people attending in previous years. All children must be accompanied.

HARTS organises a varied programme of cultural events in Hartfield throughout the year, from hosting touring theatre companies and musicians, running the slightly mad Human Fruit Machine at the village fete, holding Poems & Pints Nights in the Anchor Inn as well as taking part in the famous Hartfield Live Nativity every Christmas.

HARTS came into being after the hugely successful community play "Parallel Lives" held in St Mary's church in 2012. Our aim is to keep alive the camaraderie generated by the play and our meetings are always lively social occasions. If you would like to become involved with HARTS, find out more information about Art for All or other HARTS events, please visit [www.HartfieldARTS.wordpress.com](http://www.HartfieldARTS.wordpress.com), [ajberryartist@gmail.com](mailto:ajberryartist@gmail.com).



**HARTS** .....Life is for Living  
Hartfield Arts and Theatre Society

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

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