



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

Email: office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk



Term 3 Week 4

Friday 26th January

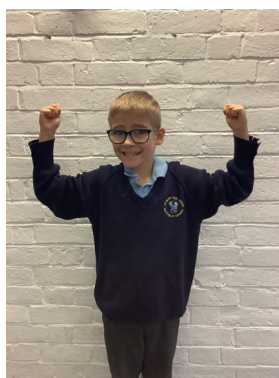
Headlines from our Head of School

Focus on 'our school vision'

This week, in our whole school, collective worship service in Church, Rev. Julie and I were helping the children remember the school vision statement. You may remember that we recently consulted all groups to agree on our final wording:

'being the best we can be, in a thriving community, following the example of Jesus'.

The children have found that having an action or symbol for each part of the phrase has helped them to remember this:



As part of re-launching the vision statement and galvanising our values of **Love, Strength and Faith**, we are hoping to welcome the community into school to celebrate at the beginning of the Summer term. This event is being planned as we speak with our Pupils as Leaders group of 'House Captains' taking the lead. We hope to deliver 4 'workshops' in school for all the children to be part of, each one exploring one of the three values and the vision statement. This will culminate in the children displaying their work in a 'gallery' for parents and community members to view through the morning of **Friday 19th April**, when we will also hold a special collective worship event led by Rev Julie and we are hoping you will be treated to a rendition of the school value's song too!

Please save the morning of 19th April in your diaries so as many of you can attend as possible!

More information will follow.

Mrs Robinson. Head of School

Top Tips

Letters, emails and WhatsApp home:

Lilac Class

- * Line Dancing Clothes
- * Maths Homework

Selected

- * After School Choir
- * Attendance Letters

Reminder for All

- * There have been many letters in the last two weeks. Please check bags and return. Thank you



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.

Dates for your Diary

January

30th: Swimming - Willow Class
31st: Lilac Class Trip - Ashdown Forest
31st: Collective Worship - 9:30am in church

February

1st: Online Safety Training - 9:00am - 10am
1st: Forest School - Maple Class
1st: Community Café - 2:00pm - 4:00pm
2nd: Celebration Assembly - 9:15am
6th: Swimming - Willow Class
7th: Collective Worship - 9:30am in church
7th: Cherry Class Trip - Drusilla's
8th: School Disco 3:15pm - 4:45pm
8th: FGB Meeting 5:00pm - 7:00pm
9th: Celebration Assembly - 9:15am
9th: Last Day Term 3



19th: First Day Term 4
20th: Swimming - Willow Class
22nd: Forest School - Maple Class
23rd: Celebration Assembly - 9:15am
26th: Parents Prayer Meeting 2:45pm in church
27th: Swimming - Willow Class
28th: Collective Worship - 9:30am in church
29th: Forest School - Cherry Class



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:



Perseverance

This week, the children have been looking at the story of Nehemiah, focusing on the start of his mammoth project to re-build the walls of Jerusalem. Thankfully God was helping Nehemiah but he was going to need perseverance to see the task through!

Everyone is on a learning journey of some description and when we see plans and lessons that seem hard we need to 'dig deep' and persevere through the trying times.

The value and importance of perseverance can not be undervalued and the children were asked to share a time when they have persevered, and to think about how they felt afterwards.

Attendance

The Pioneer Federation goal is an average attendance rate of 97%, recognizing 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, so we ask that you **please support us and your child by ensuring their attendance is a priority.**



Attendance this year:

Whole school: 94.6%

Maple: 94.1%

Less than 94.9% - Red

Cherry: 94.1%

95 to 96.4% - Amber

Willow: 94.6%

96.5 to 99.9% - Green

Lilac: 95.6%

**EVERY DAY
COUNTS!**
School success starts with
ATTENDANCE

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.



St Mary's Star Skills

"Skills for learning, skills for life"



Jared: is developing great confidence in his fabulous **leadership skills**. He carries out all of his class responsibilities extremely well and shows maturity when travelling around the school. He is a great example to others.

Liv: is developing excellent **problem solving skills**, working hard to visualise the relationships between numbers and to learn how she can use the facts she knows to work out the ones she doesn't - very helpful when converting mm to cm!

Sami: is developing wonderful **teamwork** noticing when his friends need help. He is also recognising the value of teamwork stating "when I play football, I pass the ball to other people on my team so we can score a goal!"

Well done to you all!

Sports Awards

The PE speciality being covered this term is dance and Miss Ambrose has awarded the following children Sports Awards over the last two weeks:

Nicco: for contributing fantastic ideas to the group and leading much of our dance routine.

Finlay: for an extremely positive attitude in dance lessons and for contributing great ideas.

Marlie: for excellent dancing and for helping the rest of her group develop a routine to show others.

Joseph: for being very creative and for using great teamwork which enabled his team to get more involved.

Finn: for always coming to PE with a positive attitude and for 'giving his all', each and every lesson

Bella: for always putting 100% into every lesson and for being confident in her ideas.

Sid: for having a great attempt at the new dance routine and for supporting others in the lesson.

Iris: for supporting her classmates throughout the session and for being extremely helpful at all times

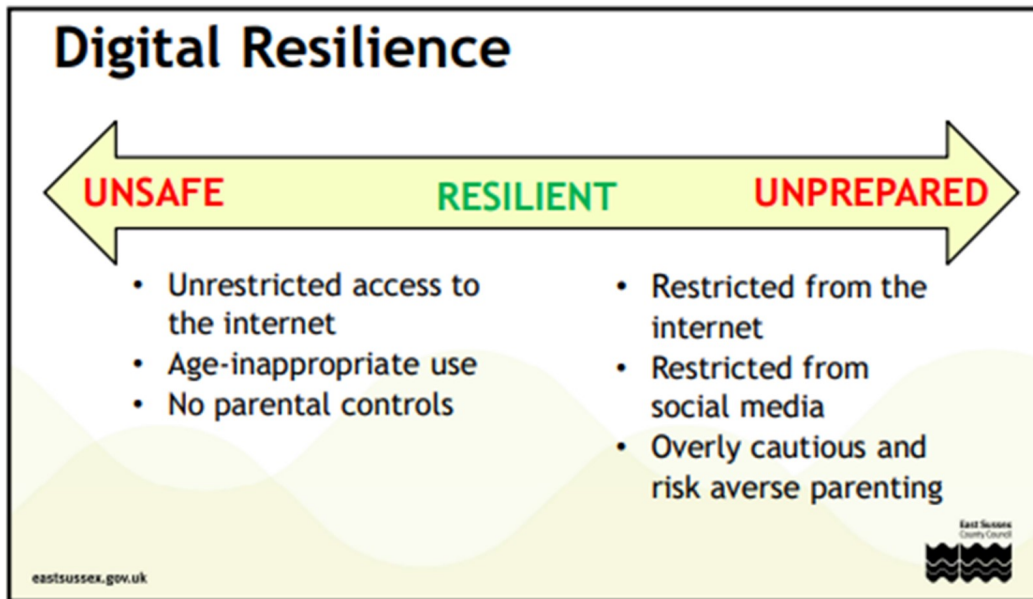


Well done to you all!



Learning Opportunity - Safety Online

On **Thursday 1st February**, Mrs Robinson is running a session about '**Online Safety**', where she will be looking at how to work with your children to keep them safe online, promoting Digital Resilience.



No booking required. Session will run between 9:00am and 10:00am, come to the office door.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Head Bump Awareness

To ensure everyone in school, and all parents at the end of the school day, are aware that a child has bumped their head and knows what to look out for, we are introducing new 'head bump bands' These will be worn on the wrist by anyone who has had a 'head bump' from Monday 29th January, so please be vigilant if your child is wearing one.



The Car Park

We are fortunate to be granted use of the parking area in front of the school so please be considerate to our neighbours and each other, when using the car park.

Also, please drive safely when coming down the drive as there are often children walking up or down the road.

Thank you.



Church Activities

1st & 3rd Sundays, 9.30am

SUNDAY Discoverers



Dates of Sunday Discoverers this term

17th December

7th January

21st January

4th February

Join us for each Sunday discoverers as we find out more about God

For more information

Contact Rev Julie Sear at

revjuliesear1@gmail.com or 01892770436

Connect@5

14th December

CHRISTMAS

11th January

25th January

8th February

22nd February

5-6.15pm
Games, Food, Bible story

For more information
Contact Matthew Marriott at
m.marriott@btconnect.com

Hartfield Village Hall

Year 5 and up

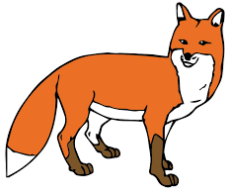
Forest School

On Thursday 25th January, Lilac Class set off for Forest School across the very squelchy and muddy Croft and as they made our way over the stile and into the field came across something lying on the floor.

The class all had a good look and a discussion about what they had just found ensued including questions of:

"where did it come from?"

"who ate it?".



They came to the conclusion that what they could see was the leg and spine of a deer, (they were correct), and that it was most probably brought there by a hungry fox!



As they continued their walk to Forest School the class used some binoculars made from toilet rolls to help spot birds. On their journey the children spotted, and recognised, a Robin, a Magpie and two Crows.



On arrival at Forest School they discovered that the new shelter had been blown down by the recent strong winds and helpfully, some of the class got to work to get it safely taken down. Then, using sticks to get the tarp over the rope, managed to get it back up again as well.



Some children gathered everything they needed to light a fire, which they also laid stacking the wood largest to smallest. The levels of perseverance employed to light the cotton wool was very impressive, with the children refusing to give up until it was done.

Once the fire was going corn was placed in the popcorn sieve and held over it. As the corns warmed they started to pop:

"it's popping, it's popping",

were the excited cries, with the popcorn then enjoyed by whole the class.

A group of the class worked well together to build a den using shovels to dig a hole for their Y shaped branch which created the support for the roof.

The other end of the roof was placed in the V of a nearby tree, and using other sticks they started to create the walls. Great teamwork was shown and developed as they gathered the materials and worked out which pieces of wood would best be placed where.

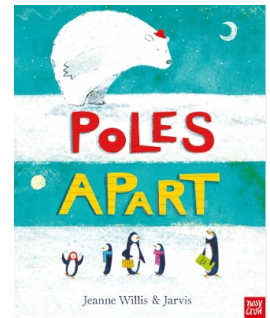
Well done Lilac Class, an amazing afternoon!



A Peek inside Chery Class

This week, Cherry Class have kindly given us a 'peek' at what they have been up to.

In line with their term's topic *What makes an animal unique?*, Cherry have started to read **Poles Apart** by Jeanne Willis and after immersing themselves in the book, had the opportunity to explore big blocks of ice, using their senses to describe how the ice felt and what it looked like.

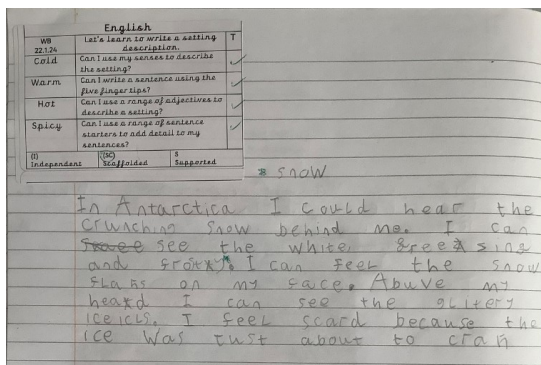


In the ice I can see long, white, straight lines like tentacles - Lois

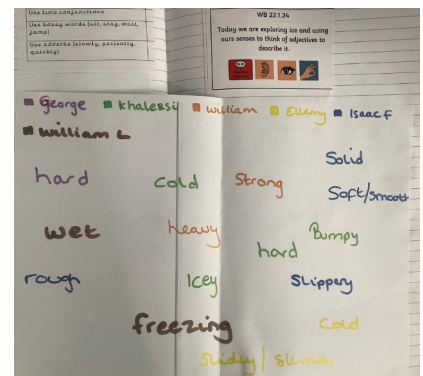
The long lines have tiny circles that look like asteroids - Bertie

The ice was smooth; freezing when I touched it. - Jacob

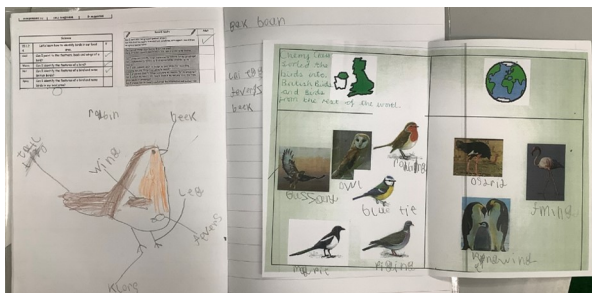
The ice has spikes and holes in it, it felt cold. - Isaac F



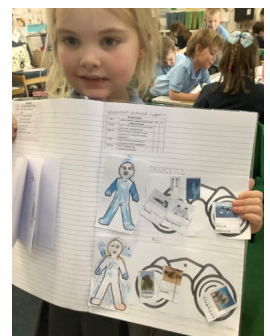
This discussion proved very helpful as it prepared the class for writing a setting description for Antarctica, thinking about what they thought they might see, feel and hear if they were there.



In comparison, they have also been generating descriptive language to describe the desert.



In science they have been learning to identify birds that might be found in the UK, describing their features and learning some names.



In geography they continued their work about the continents, learning about the equator and the difference in climate the closer or further away you live to it.

They class then identified animals that live closer or further away from the equator.



In PE this week, they had a go at chair yoga which was extremely fun!

A Peek inside Cherry Class continued

On Thursday 25th, Cherry Class were visited by Paula, one of the Education Team at the Ashdown Forest Centre, enhancing further the children's scientific learning of *what makes an animals unique?* The class had the opportunity to come face to face with some of the animals of the forest, asking questions about the local wildlife and learning more about why these animals are unique.



Cherry Class also learnt about a really special bird, the Night Jar:

- it is a rare bird,
- that is nocturnal and
- makes its' nest on the ground.

William volunteered to dress up as a Night Jar to help the others see the unique characteristics of this special bird.



To conclude, the class had a go at creating their own night jars using oil pastels.



We are really grateful to The Ashdown Forest Centre for providing this visit completely free of charge.

Thank you.

Wildlife Explorers

Over the last few weeks, the Wildlife Explorers have been getting an understanding about birds and preparing for the Big Bird Watch. Their activities have included

- identification,
- making cheerio feeders,
- binocular use and
- bird anatomy.

Do look at our notice board for members great results.

This week, we focussed on the Big Garden Bird Watch making observations of many different birds around St Mary's school. The Explorers used their binoculars to great effect and noted their observations on special identification sheets.

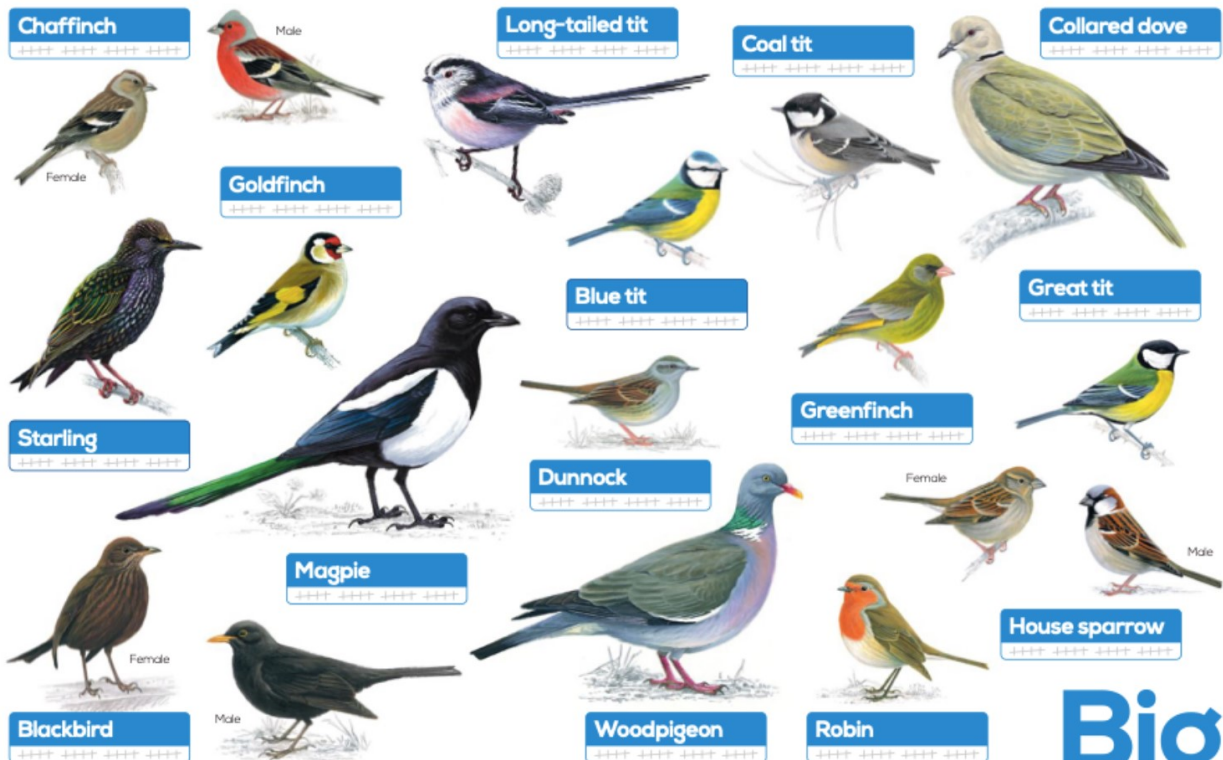
They took the opportunity to see the school's new wildlife pool which is under construction - watch this space for news as it develops!



Congratulations must be given to the Young Leader members who help organise things so well.



Big Garden Bird Watch - this weekend



These are some of the birds that you might see. You can use the tally to help you count. You'll find lots of tips on identifying birds as well as their calls at rspb.org.uk/birdwatch

The RSPB is a registered charity in England and Wales 207076, in Scotland SC037654.

Illustrations by Mike Langman (rspb-images.com)

Big
Garden
Birdwatch

Wellbeing

Our wellbeing poster this week, looks at Online Safety tips for children. It has been taken from [McGruff Safe Kids](#) and it is hoped it will encourage conversations at home in preparation for our own Internet Safety session for Parents planned for **Thursday 1st February**.

While the Internet is a great resource for finding information, it is more important than ever to make sure that children stay safe while using it and that parents remain aware of the potential dangers.

The most important safety tip to share with children:



When you are browsing the Internet, make sure your parents know what you are searching for.



More safety tips to remember when you are using the internet:



1. Don't give anyone your password, name, address, the name of your school or any information about your family
2. Don't talk to strangers on the Internet
3. Don't agree to meet anyone in person that you've met online
4. Don't fill in a profile that asks for your name and address
5. Don't visit a chat room without an adult's / parent's permission
6. Don't stay online if you see something you think your parents won't like
7. Don't post pictures of yourself without your parents' permission
8. Do not download or install anything on your computer without your parents' permission



9. If you have any questions about something you read, ask your parent or guardian



Remember

If you are talking to someone online and they make you feel uncomfortable, you don't have to talk back to them

We are Proud of You St Mary's



On Thursday, we received an email from someone the children had passed while going to church this week:

Hello,

I was walking my two dogs along the path in the Churchyard this morning when I saw a "line" of children approaching from the school playground, making their way towards the Church.

Clearly, there was not going to be enough room for us to pass easily so I stood to one side, on the grass.

The teacher leading the "line" expressed her thanks and to my delight so did many of the children. The children were not necessarily taking their lead from the teacher as many of them were out of "earshot".

The comments varied from "Thank You", "I like your dogs", "Hello" and to "Have a Nice Day".

I must say that I was extremely impressed with the good manners of the children and their friendly attitude to a complete stranger.

It made me smile and gave me a very good feeling about how polite they all were. They are a credit to your school.

Kind regards,

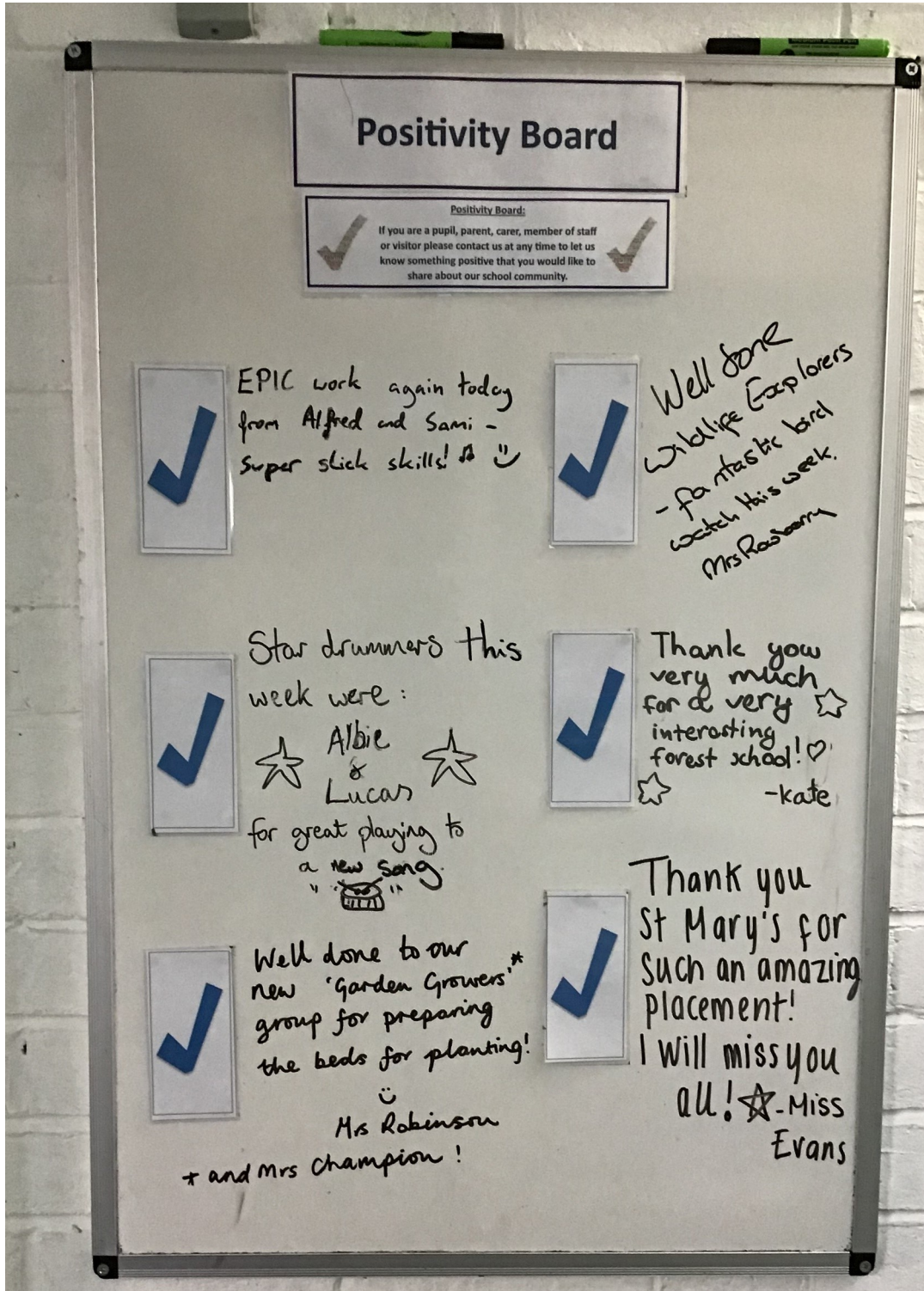
With our school vision based on Love, Strength and Faith and the children encouraged to love and respect themselves and others, and to treat all how they would like to be treated themselves, we are extremely proud of you St Mary's for 'living the vision out' and making a member of our wider community 'smile and feel good about how polite you are'



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.





WEBINARS FOR PARENTS/CARERS SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THEIR MENTAL HEALTH



Each webinar will take place on Zoom at 10am and 7pm and will run for 90-120 minutes

FREE TO ANY
PARENT/CARER
LIVING IN
SUSSEX

- 22ND FEBRUARY AVOIDANT/RESTRICTIVE FOOD INTAKE DISORDER (ARFID)
- 26TH MARCH MANAGING CHALLENGING BEHAVIOUR
- 16TH APRIL BEREAVEMENT
- 15TH MAY SUPPORTING PRIMARY TO SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSITION
- 13TH JUNE SUPPORT FOR KINSHIP CARERS
- TBC JULY CYBER SAFETY



SUPPORTED BY HEADS ON AND NHS CHARITIES TOGETHER'S COVID APPEAL

WANT TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS?

Scan here:



Or visit:

[https://ticketlab.co.uk/series/
id/1206#/
/](https://ticketlab.co.uk/series/id/1206#/)

NEED TO GET IN TOUCH?

If you have any questions, please email: CAMHSParticipationTeam@spft.nhs.uk

Delivered by Sussex Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

Opportunity

Ashdown Forest Wildlife Explorers Club Ages 7-12 Years (with accompanying adult)

Wildlife Explorers is a course especially designed for young learners. It runs once a month for three months and is aimed at nature enthusiasts aged 6-12 years (with an accompanying adult).

Wildlife Explorer's is one step along from the 'Mini Explorer' journey, however newcomers are very welcome. **We ask you sign up for a block of 3 months for accumulative learning from this season.**

We'll be meeting new friends, learning along the way with crafts and outdoor activities and having lots of fun exploring the Ashdown Forest.



Ashdown Forest Centre, Wych Cross, RH18 5JP

Spring/Summer £30 for 3 sessions (including parking)
Saturdays 1-3pm May 11, June 8 & July 13

Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Please book a place for each child.

The Wildlife Explorer price includes car parking charges for the duration of the session each month.

Booking essential - limited spaces

Visit our website for details: www.ashdownforest.org



Ashdown Forest Wild Wednesday

Wednesday 14 February 2024

10am-12noon Woodpeckers

Discover these unusual birds as they they tap out their territory
Suitable for ages 5-9 with accompanying adult

1:30-3:30pm Weave a bird nest pocket

Try your hand at weaving willow to make a hanging nest
Suitable for ages 7-12 with accompanying adult



Explore the beautiful Ashdown Forest on a short walk with outdoor activities making seasonal crafts.

Ashdown Forest Centre, Wych Cross, RH18 5JP

£7:50 per child attending.

Car Parking is included in the price - we endeavour to stay outside however if there is very poor weather we have an indoor space

Booking essential

Visit our website for details:



Opportunity

UKSA SPORTS CAMPS

Since 2009

Committed To The Development Of Young Sportspeople



13 / 14

FEBRUARY



@ Handcross Park School

Netball, Hockey & Mini Sports

FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGED 5 – 16 YRS

featuring elite Hockey, Netball & Mini Sports coaches

BOOK NOW

UKSPORTSACADEMY.COM

Use Code **UKSA10** when booking for a **10% DISCOUNT***

For further information or to book using

Childcare Vouchers

Email wendy@ukportsacademy.com



**SPECIALIST
SPORTS**

UKSPORTSACADEMY.COM

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

Opportunity



Club Flyer

Type of Club:

February Holiday Camp

Activity:

A fun filled day with a variety of sports, competitions, dance, arts & crafts, movies, and more!

Where:

Park Mead Primary School
BN27 3QP

Date:

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
12th, 13th, and 14th February 2024
3 Days

Time:

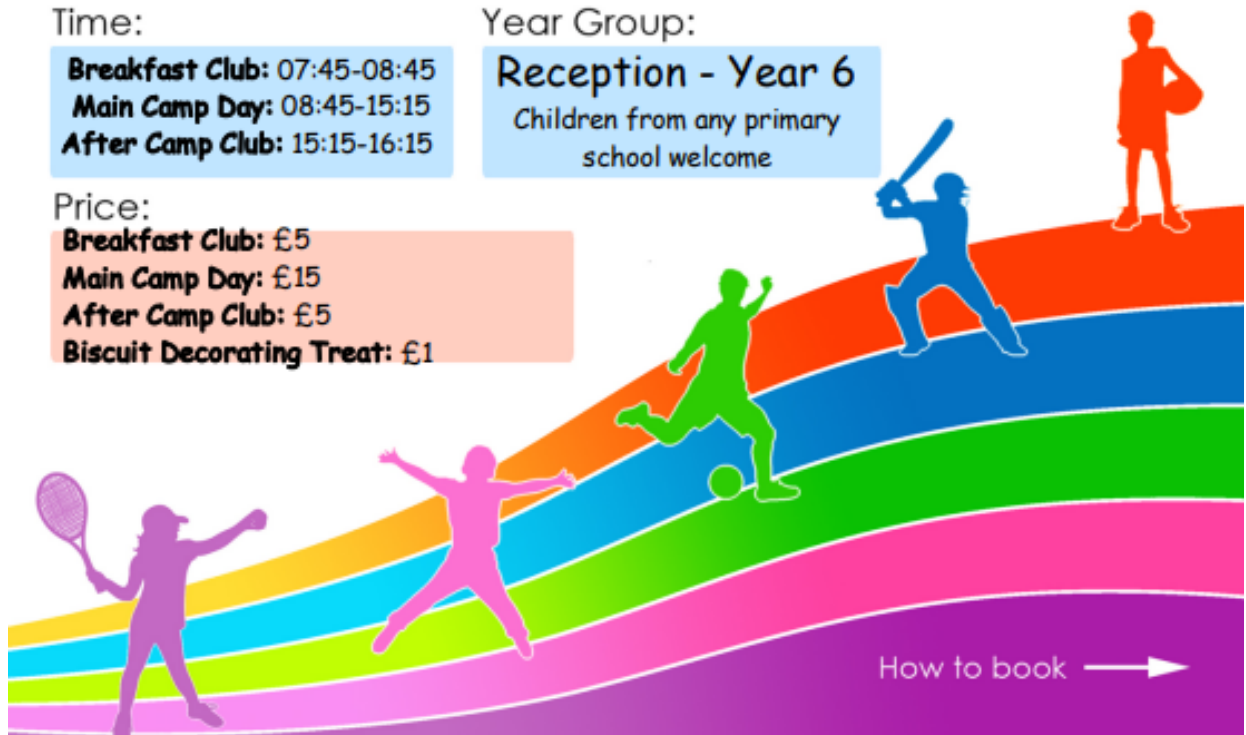
Breakfast Club: 07:45-08:45
Main Camp Day: 08:45-15:15
After Camp Club: 15:15-16:15

Year Group:

Reception - Year 6
Children from any primary school welcome

Price:

Breakfast Club: £5
Main Camp Day: £15
After Camp Club: £5
Biscuit Decorating Treat: £1



To book visit their [website](#)



SPRING CRAFT FAIR

23rd March @ 12pm to 4pm

**20 + LOCAL vendors showcasing homemade crafts of
sculptures, paintings, stained glass, jewellery,
Fathers' day gifts, cakes
and much more.**

Refreshments available

Hartfield Village Hall

Call Paula on 07973 448494 for more info

Made with PosterMyWall.com