



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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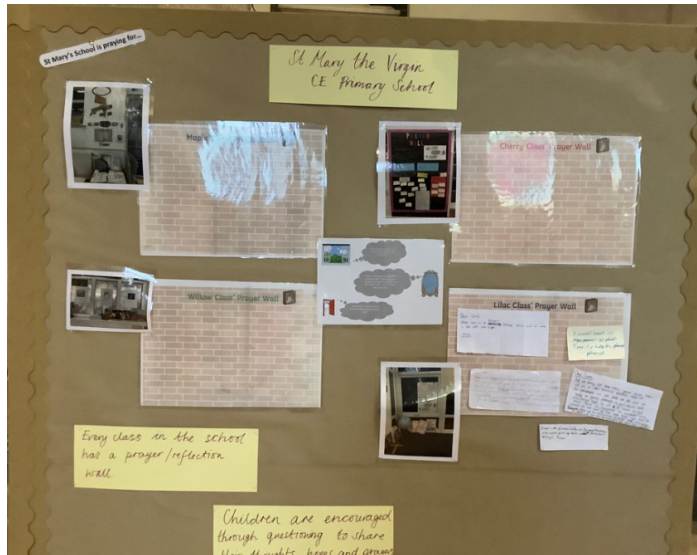
Term 3 Week 6

Friday 9th February

Headlines from our Head of School

Focus on 'working in collaboration'

This week, I have been reflecting on how we as the community of St Mary's can reach out and make links with our wider community. Last week in church, we set up our school display board, where we can regularly share the children's prayers and reflections with the church community. Every week when we take part in collective worship at St Mary the Virgin Church, Reverend Julie makes 'links' for the children between their collective worship learning in school on Mondays, by building on the themes and messages in her service on Wednesday.



Rev. Julie and I are committed to strengthening our Church-School partnership and therefore have agreed a 'Partnership Agreement' that we have both committed to and signed.

Looking to other collaborations that I aim to strengthen, I am pleased to have been able to offer our school hall to host the Hartfield Village Fete Committee AGM. I am looking forward to being able to involve the school in the planning and preparation. If you are interested in joining and being part of the team behind this lovely event at the beginning of September, then please join us at school at 7pm on 27th February.



Mrs Robinson. Head of School

Top Tips

Letters, emails and WhatsApp home:

Selected

- * Online Workshop
- * Celebration Assembly
- * Writing Club

Year 6

- * Leaver's Hoodies

All

- * Planter moving
- * Celebration Picnic



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

February

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

dates
to
Remember

PTFA Bingo Ball

The PTFA continue with their monthly 'bingo ball'.

Pulled out in assembly today, ball number 11.

Thank you to everyone continues to support this.



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 continued looking at the story of Nehemiah, focusing on how he worked to finish rebuilding the city for the people returning to it. They talked about the value of perseverance, which is key in both the story and in life as we all face challenging moments.

They then worked on creating a WOW board to celebrate achievements through perseverance outside of school and thought about prayers that could be said for those who may need help to persevere through their own challenges.

Do you have an equivalent of a 'WOW' board at home for the family to celebrate their success through perseverance?

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: 94.3%

Maple: 93.7%

Less than 94.9% - Red

Cherry: 93.6%

95 to 96.4% - Amber

Willow: 94.4%

96.5 to 99.9% - Green

Lilac: 95.5%

**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.

Logan: is developing excellent **creativity skills**, producing an amazing piece of Manga style art this term, and designing his own comic strip.

Marlie: is developing fantastic **problem solving skills**, working hard to visualise the relationships between numbers when working on fractions and number lines; she has made some great connections!

Ida: is developing wonderful **teamwork**, making sure that no one is left out. She is so inclusive of all her friends in school.

Well done to you all!



St Mary's Star Skills

"Skills for learning, skills for life"



Sports Awards

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

Logan: for fantastic joining in with the group dance and for his fabulous hip hop clothing.

Jacob: for joining in full lessons and sharing his best dance moves.

Lois: for being extremely helpful and constructive through the class dance work.

Skye: for always wanting to help out and always helping to motivate her friends!



Well done to you all!



Swimming

Willow Class have completed their first term of swimming and our 'roving reporter' Joseph tells us:

I have loved swimming (this term) . I love having fun time at the end of the swimming and getting out the sinkers and hula hoops. For the sinkers we have to grab them under the water and give them back to Elliott. For the hula hoops, Elliott throws them and we have to swim through them.

I am excited to be going swimming again next term and for having different lessons'.



Many thanks to Joseph for letting us know how exciting the swimming is and watch this space for an update next term!

Cherry Class - Trip to Drusillas

Cherry Class had a wonderful day out at Drusillas despite the drizzle. They explored the zoo together, soaked up some wonderful animal facts and stamped their booklets to record all the animals that they saw. They were all impressed with how many animals were up and active at this time of year.

One of their overall favourites were the penguins who were happily splashing about and putting on their own little show. The children also enjoyed the mischievous monkeys dashing around the trees and also the nosy meerkats, who were busy digging and bobbing up and down.



In the afternoon they hopped on the train for a ride around the park before going into the discovery centre to learn lots about some more of the animals in

the park. They had the opportunity to touch a blue tongued skink lizard, whose scaly texture was very similar to that of a snake. Some of the braver ones touched a cockroach who had a very hard back and to their surprise, its head looked very much like an ant's. The royal python was very friendly and enjoyed being stroked. Pear the rat, was a very wriggly one, and they had to be quick to get a stroke of her!

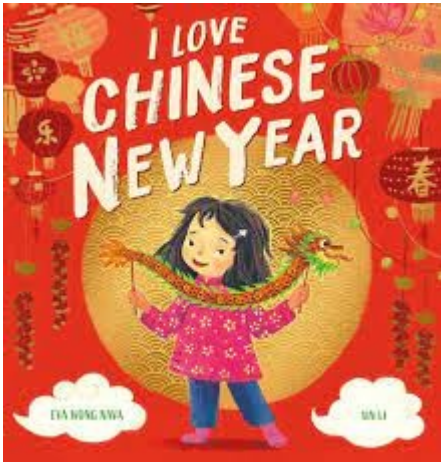
The star of the show was the hairy mammal with a shell...can you guess the mammal? It was Gretel the armadillo from South America. She was very beautiful and the children were all so amazed to get up so close to her.

Of course, before leaving the park they managed to squeeze in some time in the play area to let off some steam

In all Cherry Class all had a wonderful day out and the children represented St Mary's superbly with their ready, respectful and safe behaviour.



A Lunar New Year Lantern Making Workshop in Maple Class



Maple Class were so lucky being able to hold a special workshop event hosted by Iris's parents this week! Iris was born in Hong Kong, as was her mummy and her granny and each year they celebrate Chinese New Year, which is due to take place this Saturday, the 10th February. Emma read a wonderful book, 'I Love Chinese New Year' by Eva Wong Nava which tells the story of a family preparing for and celebrating the Lunar New Year.

Maple Class learned that the festival celebrates a new year and a new moon. They also learned about the traditions, decorations and food that people enjoy.

The children also found out about the Chinese Zodiac and the story of The Great Race. The children loved finding out what animal is attached to each of the years.

The children were so fortunate to have the opportunity to decorate and make their own lanterns. They began by using different pens, pastels, and stickers, to add decorations and then decided what they wanted to wish for this year.

To end their workshop, they enjoyed watching some traditional dragon dancing!



Forest Row Fire Station - Maple Class

Maple Class visited Forest Row Fire Station this week as part of their topic 'Off We Go!' They had a go at trying on the protective helmets and found out that there were different designs, depending on who is wearing them.



We watched the firemen dressing for the job. They were incredibly quick! It only took them 50 seconds!



They had a look at the fire engine, learning about all of the different equipment and what it was used for. They found out about heat scanners, hoses, cutting machinery, maps, breathing equipment and ladders. Each of the children had a go at climbing into the fire engine. It was very high up!



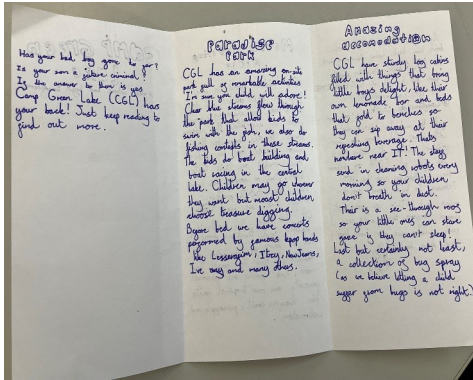
The children learned about how the engine carries water and about how to find a water supply when they are out on a job, by finding a yellow H. There was much excitement about using the hoses when they had a go at spraying the tower and the wall at the back of the fire station.



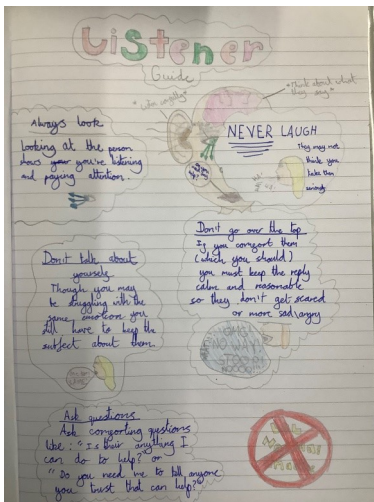
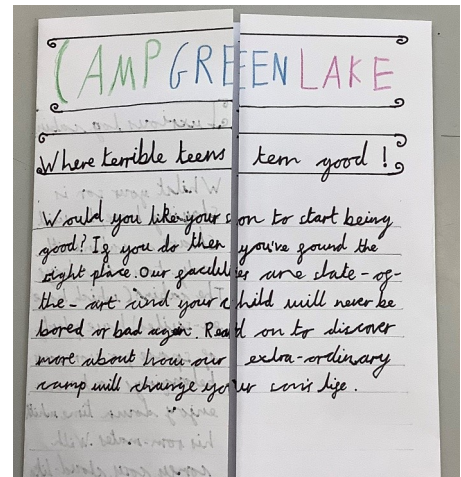
A Peek inside Lilac Class

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

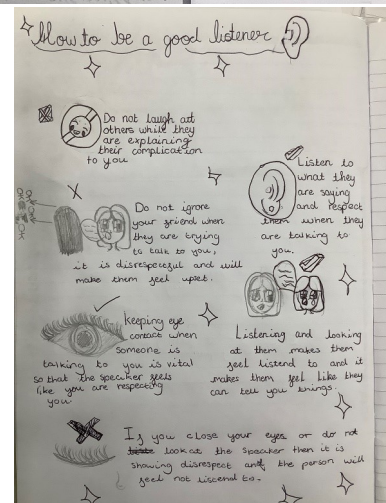
Lilac Class have working hard this week to create persuasive



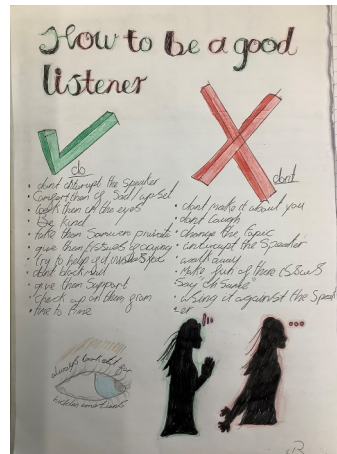
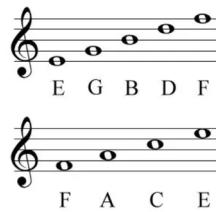
leaflets with the aim of getting people to attend their versions of Camp Green Lake from the book Holes. The children used rhetorical questions, power of three and hyperbole in their writing.



As it was Children's Mental Health Week they have joined in by completing a Zones of Regulation check in throughout the day, and discussed ways of talking to trusted people if feelings get too big. The children did some drama based on being a good listener and created posters to highlight how to be a good listener.

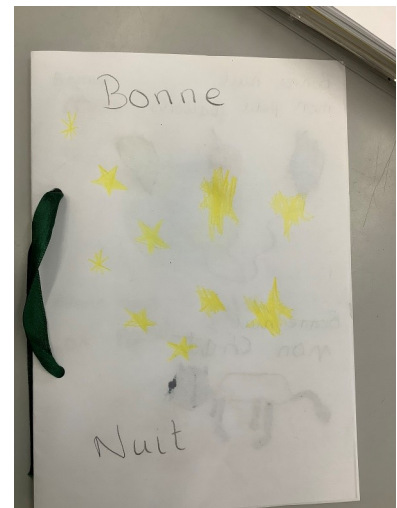


In Music, Lilac were learning to notate musical melodies using percussion instruments. They really enjoyed doing some body percussion to well known songs and then coming up with their own melodies using the different musical notes and symbols.



BLUE ZONE	GREEN ZONE	YELLOW ZONE	RED ZONE
sad	happy	frustrated	angry
tired	calm	worried	terrified
sick	feeling ok	silly	yelling
bored	ready to learn	excited	hitting
I can try...	I can try...	I can try...	I can try...
stretch	drink water	deep breaths	take a break

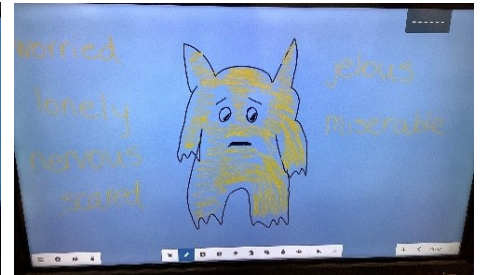
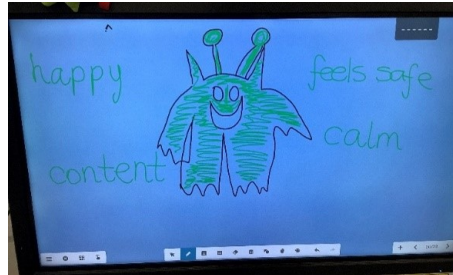
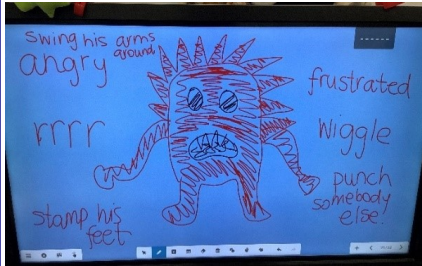
In French, Lilac have been creating their own bedtime story books. Mrs Newland let the children choose different things they liked to include in their stories.



Children's Mental Health Week

The whole school has joined in Children's Mental Health week.

Maple Class began the week by playing a game of 'Fruit Salad.' with the children taking turns to call out different cues, such as 'change places if you like dogs' or 'change places if you are looking forward to our fire station trip tomorrow.' We talked about the fact that we had lots of things in common but there are also had lots of differences between us.



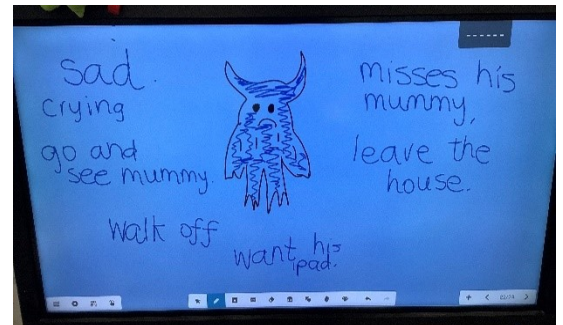
They talked about the different mood monsters and how they might be feeling if they were 'yellow', 'blue', 'red' or 'green.'

ZACH
Zones across the Day, by Maple Class

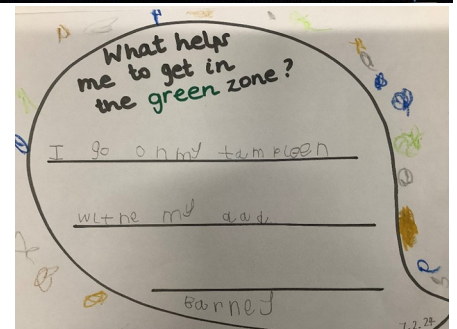
Week beginning 5th February Name: _____

	On arrival	At morning break	At lunchtime	During the afternoon	Just before home time
			✓		
		✓			
	✓			✓	✓

During the week, they have kept tabs on how they were feeling at different times of the day, using our 'Zones across the Day' tables.

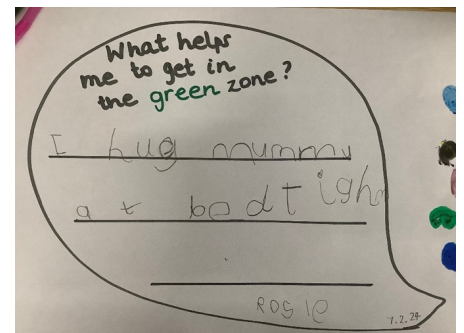


They talked about the different things they do to help 'get back to green' and the children wrote speech bubbles about their best strategies!



Maple Class had the opportunity to share what they like (and don't like) and to be heard. They learnt the Makaton sign for 'Favourite' and enjoyed the song 'do you like it?', speaking about how we all like different things but everyone's ideas, thoughts and views matter.

With their year 6 buddies, they spent time sharing 'what makes them proud'. Thank you Year 6 for helping your buddies realise that their thoughts and voice matter.



Cherry Class created wooden spoon people showing the range of emotions they might feel.



Children's Mental Health Week continued

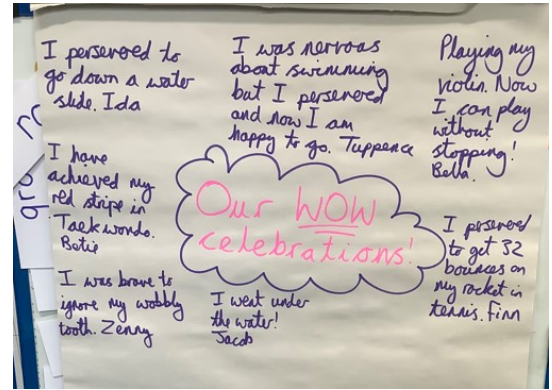
During mental health week Cherry Class also celebrated our WOW moments from the past week, for example the times when we have persevered to do something:

'I was nervous about swimming but I persevered and now I am happy to go.'

Tuppence

'I persevered playing my violin, now I can play without stopping'

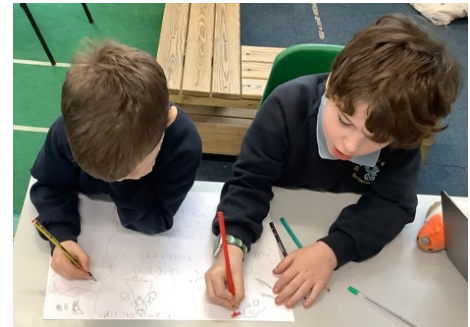
Bella



Through discussions, they reflected on how they feel when they persevere and many of the class stated that we feel happy, excited and proud!



Cherry Class also tracked their mood across the day using the zones of regulation (see picture) we then spent time talking about what we can do to help us to get back into the 'green' zone which is the colour for optimum learning.



As the theme of the week was My Voice Matters, they also had a circle time discussing likes and dislikes and comparing them with our friend's likes and dislikes. We came to realise that many of us don't like the same things and that it's ok for us to be different, but at the same time we can respect others' feelings. In our teams we worked together to create a poster of our day and all the things we are proud of including the things that make us different.

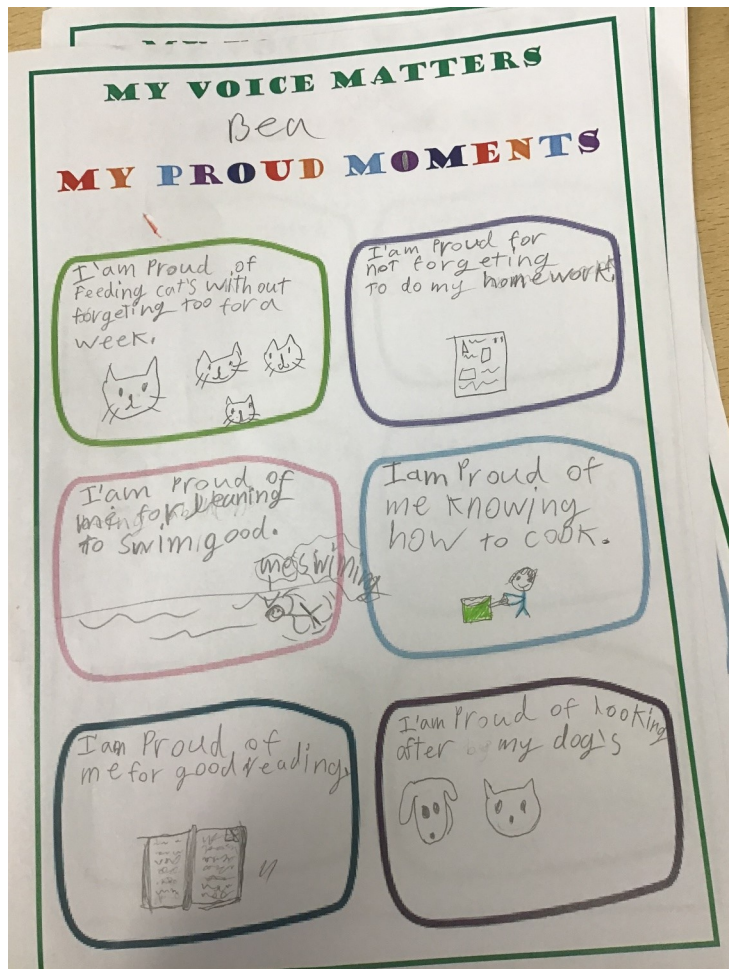
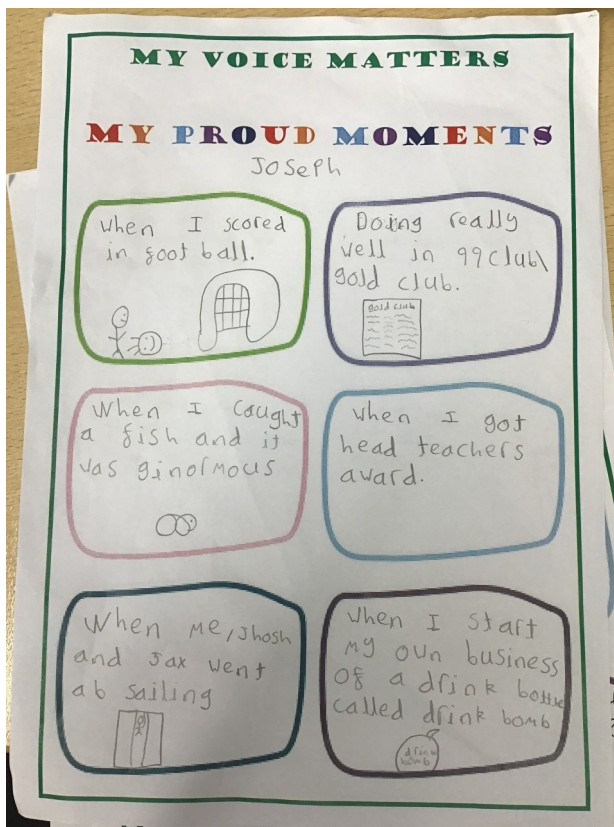
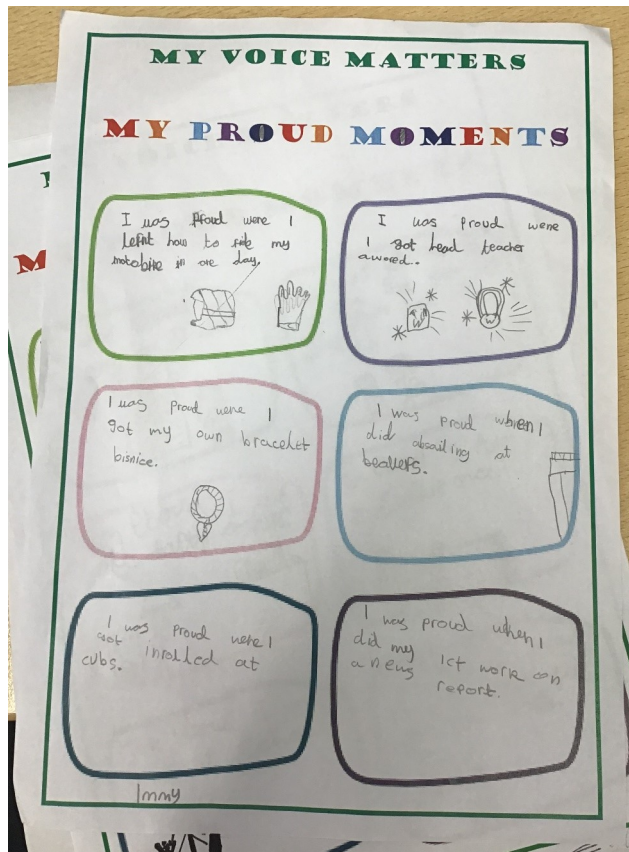
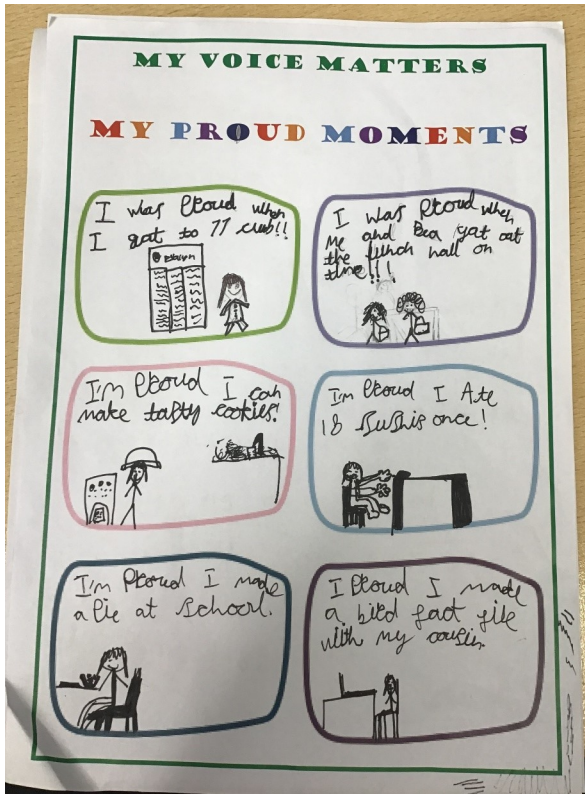
Finally, we discussed what we might do if we are worried about something and introduced a worry box where we can write our worries if we feel like that is easier than talking about our worries.



Children's Mental Health Week continued

Willow Class took on the main focus of the week and looked at just how much they agree with 'My Voice Matters'.

Thank you to those willing to share their work and some of the things that make them proud.



MY VOICE MATTERS

This year's Children's Mental Health Week theme is My Voice Matters.

Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.*

As adults, we should empower children and young people, and provide them with time, space, and opportunities to express themselves. We must also ensure they have opportunities to influence aspects of their worlds that directly - or indirectly - affect their wellbeing.

Empowering children and young people can have a positive impact on their health and wellbeing. For example, children and young people who feel that their voices are heard - and that what they say makes a difference - have higher levels of self-efficacy and self-esteem. They also have a greater sense of community - and as people become empowered, they can work together to create positive changes for themselves and for others.

There are some children and young people whose voices are marginalised. For example, those who have a special educational need or disability, those who are care-experienced, those who are part of the LGBTQI+ community, and those from racially minoritised groups. This Children's Mental Health Week we want all children and young people, whoever they are, and wherever they are in the world, to be able to say - and believe - "My Voice Matters".

* The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Wellbeing

Our wellbeing poster this week is taken from the 'children's mental health week' website and gives some ideas of how to encourage children to express themselves and to know that 'their voices do matter.'

LET YOUR IMAGINATIONS RUN WILD

We're all different - we all have different things that make us tick and that bring a smile to our face.

Express Yourself allows children and young people to celebrate what makes them unique with an incredibly fun dress-up day - this could be sharing their favourite hobby, such as skateboarding or dancing, or wearing their favourite colour or accessory. Or it could just be coming in as themselves.

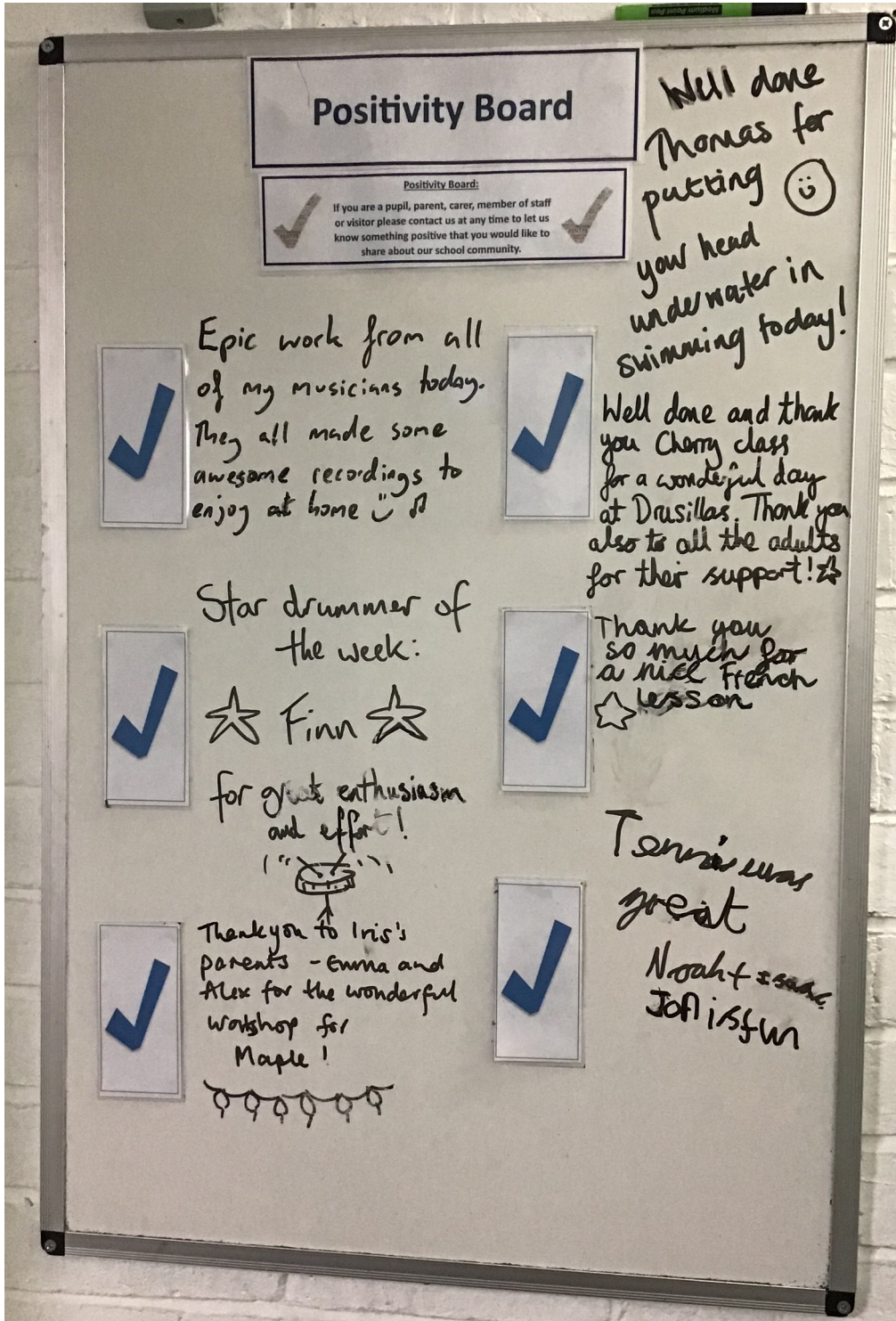
Express Yourself is about letting children's voice shine through and empowering them to tell their own stories! If you need a little inspiration, here are some ideas on the right to get you started!

- 1 Let your inner disco diva shine on the dance floor
- 2 Let your personality shine through with your favourite colours
- 3 Embrace your creative side and unleash your artistic energy
- 4 Show off your team spirit with your favourite team's kit
- 5 Take the stage as the coolest rockstar in town
- 6 Come as you are and wear your comfiest clothes!
- 7 Bring the cool energy of the skate park to the playground
- 8 Share what makes you... you and celebrate what sets you apart.

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.





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

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