

Foundation

This week our focus has been on diversity and belonging to the St Faith's family. The children enjoyed stories that showed the importance of being a kind friend to all – definitely an idea to change the world! We really enjoyed reading the children's ideas about what being a good friend means. There was lots of knowledge about friends needing to share. We thought we would *share* with you some of the ideas: "A good friend is my Mum because she cooks me food"; "I am a good friend because I let them go first."; "A good friend shares the dice with me."; "I will make a kind friend because I will listen and am kind."; "Daddy is a kind friend because he shares the drill." We also made music both using home-made instruments and on the computer!

This week in Maths, we have been building on our work on teen numbers, introducing numbers 16-20 by counting, understanding they were made of ten and a bit more and ordering them.

At school we work hard to develop the children's resilience, another one of our learning habits. We encourage the children to say "never mind" when things don't go their way and for them to have another try. We would always reward effort over achievement. If your child finds something hard during their home learning, you might like to say to them:

- You can do it!
- Well done for trying!
- It's good to have a go.
- Is there another way you could try?
- What did you do when you got stuck last time?
- What else could you try?

The ability to reframe challenges in ways that are less threatening is also linked to resilience. We might say, "You can't go outside and play today because it is raining but we have got out the remote control cars instead". Especially apt during home schooling, resilience is also the ability to adapt in the face of challenging circumstances. You might like to help children talk about their emotions, talking about times you have found things difficult and acknowledging we all feel sad, scared or worried. Imitation is a powerful way to learn. Social support is also a good way of building resilience and this is why we have our Stars of the Week and our dots on ladders, so children realise we consistently notice and value their achievements.

If you are looking for something to do this weekend you could join in the RSPB Big Bird Watch. Information can be downloaded here: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>.

You could spend some time counting the birds that come into your garden to feed on your feeder. Ask your child for ideas to record how many visited.

Next week, we continue thinking about being a good friend by looking at the story of 'Rainbow Fish'. We hope to do some junk modelling on Thursday (before you empty your bins!).

Have a lovely weekend whatever you do,

The Foundation Team