## 15<sup>th</sup> May – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023

## Weekly Highlights!

What a busy week we have had!

It began with a celebration of all the hard work that has gone into completing the Year 6 SATs with the Year 6 children enjoying a day away from school and being able to relax. I'm sure at this point that you would also wish to join me in thanking all the staff who have helped prepare the children by not only providing excellent teaching in lessons, but also by going that extra mile and providing early morning and after school sessions to ensure that every child is given the very best opportunity to succeed.

Tuesday brought Class photo day and the beginning of our maths drop-ins. From the feedback that I have had these insights into the classroom were very much appreciated by all the parents who were able to attend, even if some felt a little nervous before they went into the lessons. One message that I received from a parent seems to sum up the week. They wrote, 'Even I enjoyed maths (probably a first) and I only had to copy off my child for part of it.'

On Thursday we wore green to remember how important good mental health is. On Monday the children were reminded by me that everybody has mental health and it is normal to sometimes feel angry, sad, stressed or anxious. However, they were also reminded that if anybody continued to feel that way there were plenty of people who could help including friends, family or a member of staff. The theme of this year's mental health week was 'Let's connect'. With that in mind, please remember that we are also here to support you if you need some help. We also have clear procedures and policy to deal with concerns. Remember, however that we can only address matters that our brought directly to our attention; anonymous concerns and matters dealt with via social media do not provide school with a right to reply or enable us to work together for the benefit of the children. Our pastoral and senior leadership team know that it is good to talk and will always make time available if you feel that you need our help or some clarification.

During the same assembly, Mr Brown also encouraged the children to participate in the 'Walk to school' initiative, which not only supports mental health by being in the fresh air and getting some exercise, but also reduces the carbon footprint of the school and creates a much happier community at the beginning and end of every day. Now that we are in summer, it would be lovely to see a huge upturn in the number of children whose parents are happy to park away from school so that they can walk the rest of the way and earn badges.

On Thursday we also held our mental maths competition in the hall for our Year 3 and 4 children. All the children who had already proven that they were excellent mathematicians in their own classes competed against each other to find out who would be our top 3. Well done to Nathan, Henry and Praise for their amazing skills! These children will then go forward to represent Parish next week at the PiraMidd competition hosted by Parkfield. Well done also to Oliver, Baylie-Rose, Lilly, India and Vincent for reaching the school final.

Today I have been surrounded by rock stars. Thank you for your support in ensuring that your children have come in some amazing outfits. It is clear that they have thoroughly enjoyed today rocking out!

In amongst all this activity in school, we have also enjoyed some amazing sporting success. Well done again to our footballers who have not only played well, but also exemplified excellent behaviour whilst competing.

I believe that there is good weather on the way for the weekend, so I hope you have an enjoyable one. Best wishes, Mrs Cooke