

Sedlescombe Newsletter No. 18

Learning to Learn Day What makes A Good Learning Partner

On Monday we had another Learning to Learn Day which started with the whole school coming together to find a very unhappy and despondent Mrs Harvey because she had got stuck in her learning and had fallen into the 'Learning Pit'.

Despite persevering with trying to complete her Tangram Puzzle she was completely stuck and needed a Learning Partner to come and help her.

Miss Hovenden was very keen and accidentally pushed Mrs Harvey out of the way in her rush to help. Miss Hovenden did the Tangram Puzzle but didn't offer Mrs Harvey any guidance. Mrs Harvey had another try but this hadn't really helped her out of her 'Learning Pit'.

Next Mrs Heggie was asked to try and help but she just kept ignoring Mrs Harvey and didn't want to help at all, which was a little bit upsetting and made Mrs Harvey want to just give up.

However, Miss Brogan said she would help and very quickly solved the tangram puzzle and sat down again, but it was all just too quick to be very helpful.

Mrs Hancock then came up because she could see that Mrs Harvey was getting quite upset and decided to try and cheer her up by distracting her into doing something else and persuading her to forget all about the Tangram Puzzles because they were silly and there were much better things they could be doing. Mrs Harvey was tempted but decided this would be the wrong thing to do, but who would help her?

Just when Mrs Harvey thought things couldn't get any worse Miss Caush decided she would try and help by telling Mrs Harvey that Tangram puzzles were really simple and that she was stupid if she couldn't do them. Mrs Harvey looked like she was going to cry.

Just then Miss Highwood came and helped Mrs Harvey and gave her some encouragement and some ideas on what she could try and together they completed the puzzle. Miss Highwood had been the Learning Partner to help her out of the Learning Pit.

The children then went back to class to try and learn a new skill that they would have to teach to another class later in the day.

WHY LEARNING PARTNERS?

It is really important that the children learn to help and support each other in their learning because this supports the development and learning of both children. The Learning Partner offering help benefits because when helping someone else to learn a skill it consolidates their learning and takes it to a deeper level. The other child also benefits because something can be explained to them by someone at their own level and this can be easier than asking the teacher. However, as the children found out this can only happen when you have the right approach to Learning Partners.

The children came up with their own posters for reminding us all about how to be a good learning partner and we also came up with names for the different sorts of Learning Partners.

- Doing it for someone—**The Dominator**
- Refusing to help—**The Ignorer**
- Going too quickly—**The Rusher**
- Suggesting something else to do—**The Distractor**
- Being unkind and unhelpful—**The Destroyer**
- Encouraging and guiding—**The Motivator**

It was a great day and the children reflected hard on how to behave when they were being Learning Partners and could identify when they were shifting from being a Motivator to one of the other roles and would adjust their behaviour to become a Motivator again.

The children also created posters for their classrooms with top tips for being a great Learning Partner. I have attached one to the Newsletter so you can see what a great job the children did.

Here are a couple photos of the children practising their learning partner skills by teaching each other a new skill.



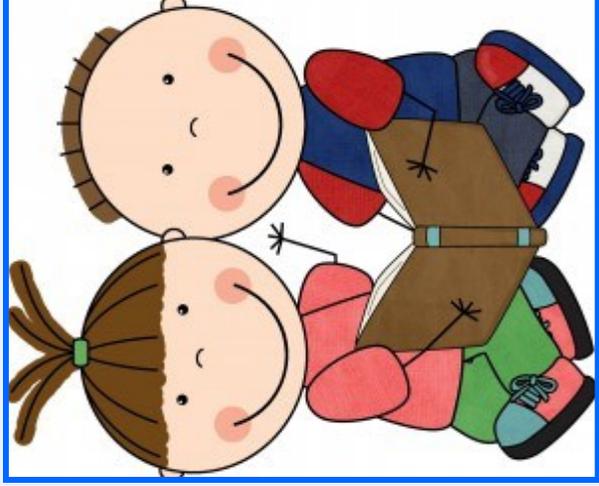
Making a paper hat



Finger knitting

Great Learning Partners ...

- Listen carefully
- Help each other
- Give careful instructions
- Show how to do it
- Speak kindly
- Don't give up
- Be patient
- Take turns



- Encourage by using words such as:
 - well done
 - you're nearly
 - good job
 - fantastic so far
 - Keep going
 - That's much better
 - Smile!



Alone
we can do so little
Together
we can do so much
Helen Keller



Wonderful Weekly News

 Star Workers 
Mozart: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruben • Tilly
Van Gogh: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexander • connor
Lowry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coby • Daniel
McCartney: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sid • Felix
Da Vinci: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emily G • Raya C
Picasso: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Casey • Albert
Vivaldi: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toby • Max G

 Star Writers 
Mozart: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caleb
Van Gogh: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Millie
Lowry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joe
McCartney: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grace P
Da Vinci: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arthur
Picasso: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eve
Vivaldi: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward

 Maths Wizards 
Mozart: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dylan
Van Gogh: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coral
Lowry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logan
McCartney: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dariusz
Da Vinci: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lacey
Picasso: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Florence
Vivaldi: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alfie

Party Point Champions	
Van Gogh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connor 	Da Vinci <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alice
Lowry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evie W 	Picasso <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thea
McCartney <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sophia 	Vivaldi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward
KS1 Playtime Champions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowry 	KS2 Playtime Champions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCartney
<h2>Congratulations</h2>	

Gold Book Awards for Outstanding Work
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruce (Y2) for showing outstanding understanding and kindness to a friend in need. Bruce managed to help someone feeling incredibly upset calm down and feel better. Thank you!