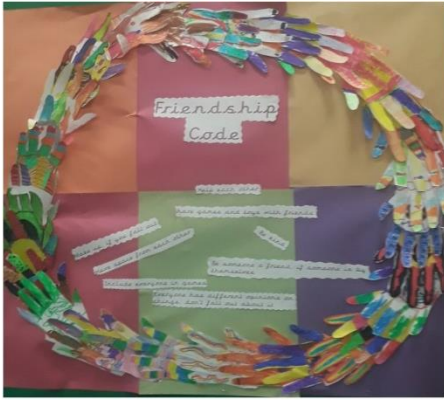


Weekly Word

18.12.2020



To all Parents/Carers,

And so ends 2020 at Markeaton! I'd like to offer you some kind of summary of the last 12 months but I am not sure I have enough space! We can all agree, this year has been a challenge and unlike anything we have ever faced before. I remember watching Boris Johnson announce the closure of schools back in March with some of the teaching staff and even then we didn't quite know what to expect in the near future.

But like some challenges we know that it has, in some ways, helped make us stronger. And even though we wouldn't have foreseen it, there are some changes to school life that have definitely made things easier. Take coming into school wearing your PE Kit as an example – such a simple idea and incredibly effective. No more lost t-shirts, no more time wasted getting changed before and after the lesson; surely this has to stay! The staggered starts as well, we would never have considered this pre-lockdown but there are definite positives which can be taken from it; not least the increased levels of independence it has given the children. It always makes me smile when I see a child telling a parent on the gate 'don't forget my bookbag' or 'have you remembered my snack?' – there was a time when it was the other way round!! There are plenty of other positives so hopefully we will get the chance to explore these as we navigate our way back to 'normal'.

In other news, a huge well done to Harry H (Y1), Saylor H (Y2), Hannah L (Y3), Angela S (Y4), Ibbey K (Y5) and Emily G (Y6) whose winter stories were chosen as the winners for their year group. They each received a prize and a new reading book. Congratulations!!

That's it from me, have a great holiday and new year and we look forward to seeing you in 2021.

Take care and best wishes,

Mr I. Johnson