

Some children spent a long time sitting calmly in the tent gazing at the bubble tube. We suggest that it's like watching your thoughts or prayers go up to God. And we do pray that activities like this give the children an opportunity to think deeply about God.



Several of the activities highlight some of the stresses that our children face, such as friendships, future roles and relationships. **ExploRE** is a wonderful opportunity for children to consider how faith may assist them in their lives.

After the event, the teacher we liaised with wrote this;

"Thank you so much on behalf of Little Green for such an engaging and welcoming ExploRE week. Every class came back to school positively and it gave the children a lovely, reflective, safe space. We were impressed by how calm the children were and the respect that they had for their environment as well as their engagement in the activities.

All of the activities were so well thought out, which meant all children were engaged in an activity, whether that was more hands-on or through words and thought."

Another teacher wrote,

"I saw many children reflecting in a deeper way and as the session was out of school I think it made the children feel a different way about how they felt about the questions that were posed to them. The environment was extremely relaxing and calm."

One of our favourite comments came from a teacher who admitted to being 'wrongly cynical' about ExploRE. They said that seeing so many hands-on activities in one room made them reflect on their own classroom practice.

There were lots of really positive comments from staff and pupils alike about the knitted hearts. One teacher said, "The knitted hearts were also lovely, and we appreciate the time that they took to make."

Many of the children cherish these, with some in pencil cases at school." While another said, "The knitted hearts were such a lovely touch. Thank you all so much for your hard work."

It is the same with every ExploRE, but when we said that our team of lovely volunteers had made enough hearts for every child in their school to have one-so 360 hearts, both staff and children alike were really impressed!!

So, if you are one of our knitters please know that your hard work is appreciated, more than we can say!



We are now attaching a small card on a ribbon that reminds the children that the Bible says that God loves everyone. So, when they take that heart back to school or home, that message goes with them!! We do have a couple of volunteers who are attaching the ribbons and cards for us but if you are knitting for us and you want to attach a ribbon so we can tie a card to it, feel free!!

And Thank You!!!

As always, we were helped by a great team of volunteers at CGBC, many of whom had never seen it before. We hope they'll come and help us next time too!!

STOP PRESS: Our next ExploRE is at Harvey Rd Primary school on Monday 22nd - Wednesday 24th September!! Save the date!!!



Some of the other ExploRE activities

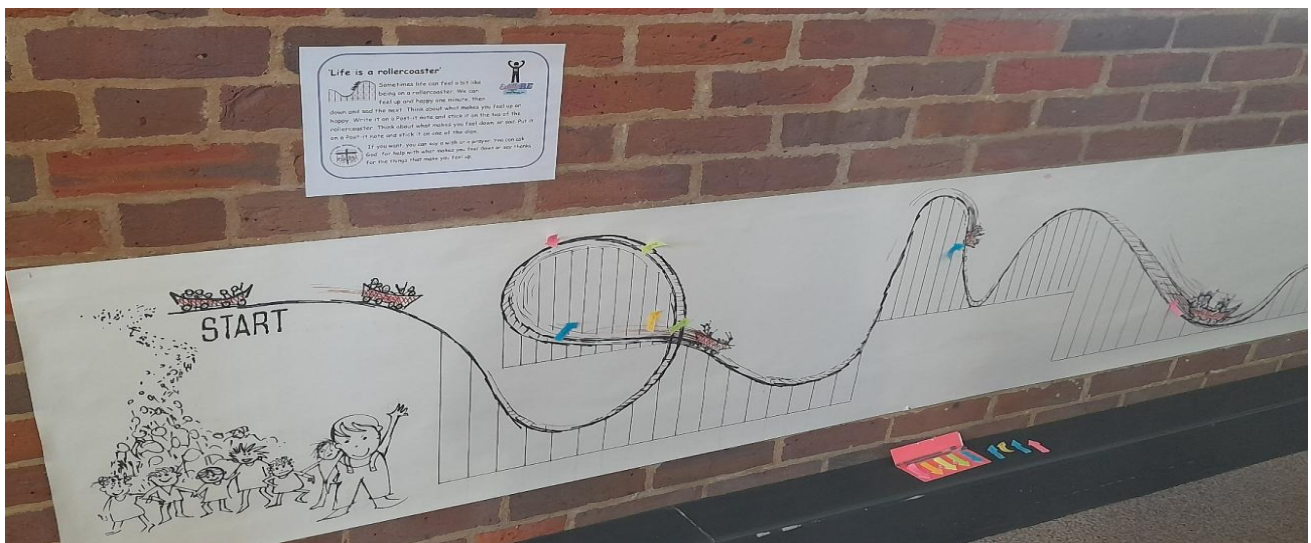
Doll's House

The Bible says that God knows everything we do, all the time. Christians find comfort in knowing that God is always with them, wherever they are.

Life is a rollercoaster'

Sometimes life can feel a bit like being on a rollercoaster.. Think about what makes you feel up or happy. Write it on a Post-it note and stick it on the top of the rollercoaster.

If you want, you can say a wish or a prayer. You can ask God for help with what makes you feel down or say thanks for the things that make you feel up.



There are many people in our world who help others.

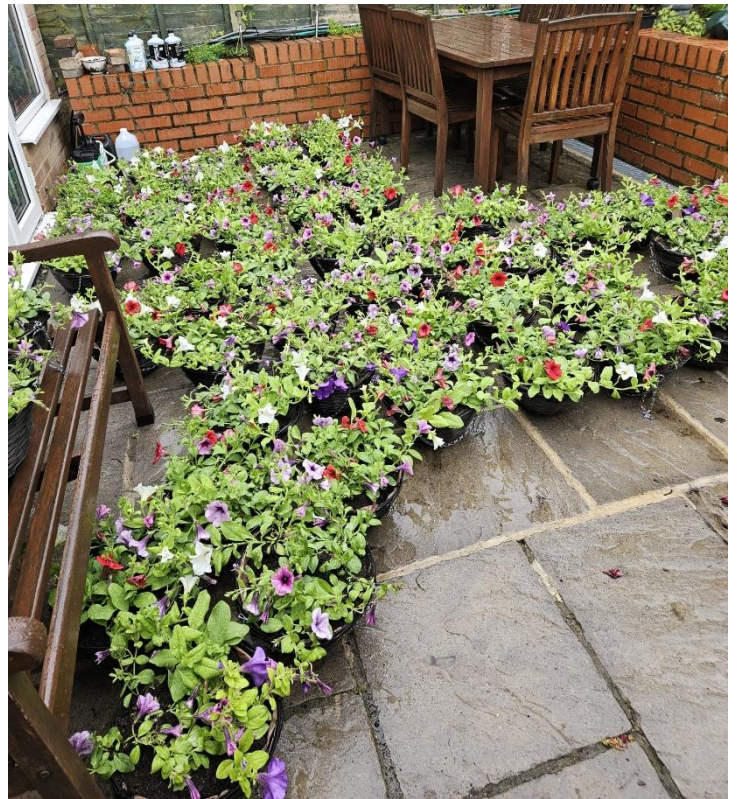
Take a 'person' print-out. Draw someone who helps others. Can you add accessories to show clearly what kind of job they do? On the back, write a thought or prayer for the people who help others.



Thank you to all our supporters who bought a summer hanging basket. 90 baskets sold!

Alison raised £360 for Watford Schools Trust.

I will be selling baskets for the Autumn in September.



WST Volunteers and Supporters Tea

On Tuesday 15th July we celebrated our volunteers and supporters with an afternoon tea. We enjoyed tea and cakes in the garden of North Bushey Baptist Church next to our office. We had some fun playing hook a duck (one of our ExploRE activities) and gave out little duck keyrings to help our supporters to remember the work of Watford Schools Trust even when out and about. Some volunteers brought more knitted hearts for our next ExploRE in September at Harvey Road. One of our volunteers even made another heart there and then. We are grateful to all our supporters and volunteers for their support!





ExploRE at Harvey Road Primary School

We are taking ExploRE to the children at Harvey Road School in the week of Monday 22nd September to Wednesday 24th September

We need volunteers to help us run the sessions with the children on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd September.

Also help needed to transport resources from our base in North Bushey on Monday 22nd September and set up the activities and then pack up on Wednesday 23rd and return resources to base.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To volunteer or find out more contact Alison



Calling All Knitters

We need more knitted hearts – any colour.

Please help get in touch if you are a knitter.

I can send you the pattern. We have wool and stuffing for anyone that needs any.

Pray for Watford Schools Trust

- Pray for all the Year 6 children who are changing schools
- Praise God for all our wonderful volunteers and supporters
- Pray for new Trustees who can join our team
- Pray for ExploRE coming soon to Harvey Road Primary School

We hope you have enjoyed reading our Summer newsletter

Watford Schools Trust Team

Trustees: Angela Steed (Secretary), Joanna Woolcock (Treasurer), Helen Horton and Ben Dear

Schools Workers: Tricia Bastable, Johanna Nieuwelink Jordan and Fiona Penny

Administrator: Alison Harvey