



Stay & Play!

SUMMER 2023 ROUND UP

IT'S SUMMER!

There were times when we thought the weather would never be on our side, but the Summer term came up trumps and the Stay & Play children have been making the most of the sunshine and our wonderful outdoor space.

We've been on the climbing frame, had adventures with the Bikes and Trikes, coloured and crafted in the fresh air, and learnt an awful lot about our environment.

'Cooking' in the Little Woods has been a very popular pastime, and all of the Stay & Play staff have been treated to some delicious and imaginative 'meals'. Yes, they mostly consisted of bark!

Read on for more highlights!

EID

The summer term kicked off with Ms Broachi sharing how her family celebrate Eid. The children had some extremely thoughtful questions and shared in the celebration by making beautiful decorations.



WE LOVE NATURE!

WE DID IT!

The Spring Term ended with the most wonderful surprise. Having seen our hedgehog campaign in the Spring Round Up, David Herbert Architects donated two (very luxury!) hedgehog houses to the school. We not only need to thank David Herbert Architects on behalf of the hedgehogs, but also for teaching our children the most valuable lesson – that they can make a change. This success has only inspired them to work harder for what they believe in, and we've seen the results this term. It is a lesson that will last a lifetime.

WHAT NEXT?

We were spoilt for choice when it came to another campaign, so we tried to do them all!



1. THE BIRDS

We made Cheerio feeders and honey seeded pinecones for the birds. Squeamish parents and carers, please accept our apologies if you came across some dried mealworms - the robins really love them!

WE (STILL!) LOVE NATURE



How to make seed bombs

You will need:

- Meadow flower seeds or seeds collected from the garden



- Peat-free compost



- Water



- Powdered clay (from craft shops - use clay soil if you can't find any)



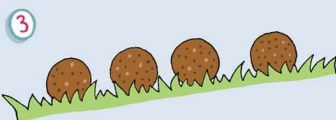
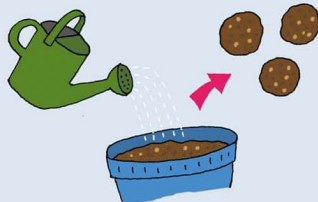
- Mixing bowl



- 1 In a bowl, mix together 1 cup of seeds with 5 cups of compost and 2-3 cups of clay powder.



- 2 Slowly mix in water with your hands until everything sticks together, then roll mixture into firm balls.



- 4 Now for the fun bit - plant by throwing your seed bombs at bare parts of the garden!



Illustration: Corinne Welch © Copyright Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts 2015

www.wildlifewatch.org.uk

2. THE BEES

Did your child come home with a paper cup containing a mud pie? All was not what it seemed! We followed the Wildlife Trust's recipe to make bee friendly seed bombs from soil, clay powder, water and seeds. Some were scattered around the school grounds so hopefully the bees will enjoy them over the summer!

3. THE TREES

The Woodland Trust's Green Schools Award inspires pupils about trees, woods and wildlife. As Stay & Play children have been so enthusiastic about wildlife and nature, we have decided to work towards the Bronze Award together. The children have already started working on a recycling task, which will take us to 3 out of the 5 points required!



A BIT CRAFTY!

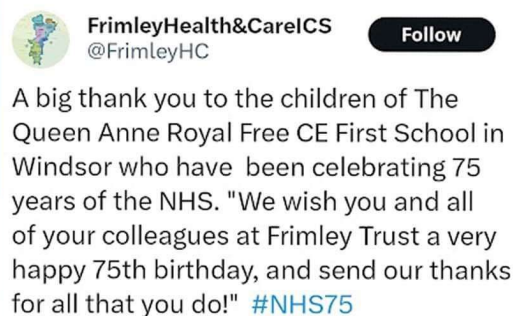
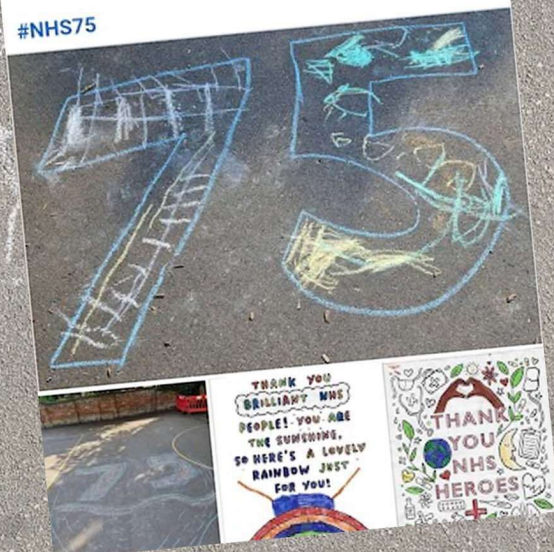
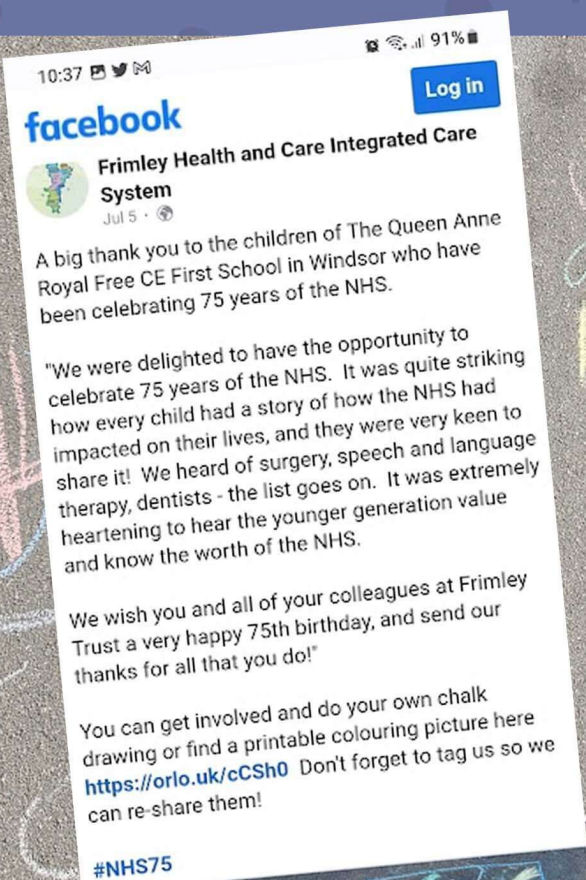


Despite being able to spend more time outdoors, Stay & Play have still managed to squeeze in some crafting! We celebrated the King's Coronation with our very British Coronation Owls and star wands. We've designed wobbly leg bugs, used our creative flair with scratch art, and we suspect there are a fair few geckos (possibly with underpants) on fridges at home!



NHS 75TH BIRTHDAY

The 5th July saw the 75th Birthday of the NHS and our local trust put out a request for artwork to display on their social media. Stay & Play children were delighted to oblige with chalk art on the playground, and quite possibly the neatest colouring we have ever seen!



Every day there is something for Stay & Play staff to be proud of, but this activity was exceptional. While their creativity was in full flow, the children spontaneously shared their stories of how the NHS had helped them, their families and their friends. Their gratitude was reflected in their work and we passed on our thanks to Frimley Health Foundation Trust for all that they do.

EVERYTHING ELSE!



FUN & GAMES

Some of our very best afternoons this term have been when we planned nothing at all! Football remains extremely popular, and it has been a real joy to watch our younger children achieve the ultimate goal – getting down the fireman's pole on the climbing frame!



CARING FOR OUR SCHOOL

While 'Social Responsibility' is firmly on the agenda in middle schools, our Stay & Play children are starting early! After spotting some litter, the children ASKED to do a litter pick! (Yes, we really meant it when we said there was something to be proud of every day!) One afternoon we even had a competition to see who could pull the longest weed from the climbing frame bark. As you can see by the sheer number of weeds, the children took the task extremely seriously, and I know Mrs McDougall was delighted!



LOTS TO SEE!

And when we had some downtime we went looking for the little things. We found the endangered Stag Beetle, a very large hornet, an entire nursery of baby ladybirds, and both Nuthatch and Blue Tit nests - with chicks!

Sometimes we didn't have to look far at all! Never did I imagine this would be the term when I would hear the words "Sam, there is a grasshopper on your face"!



GOOD BYE & GOOD LUCK!

YEAR 4

'Proud'. Proud is the only word with which we can begin. Whether they have attended Stay & Play for one session, or every session, our Year 4's have been such a wonderful year group. They have been the trusted message takers, the riddle-tellers, the jokers, the style gurus, and they have held the hands of younger children who needed a little bit of comfort.

Year 4 have taught crafts, be it those the Stay & Play staff had planned, or those that they themselves wanted to share. They have done plenty of tidying and sorting, mostly without being asked, and I've no doubt Mrs Warburton will miss the grouping of pens and pencils by colour in her trolley!

When your child hasn't got trainers for the climbing frame, it is our Year 4 children that volunteer to take them to find spares that fit, before anyone has even mentioned it. And, when the days are feeling long and not so bright, they are always there for us adults with a good giggle.

Year 4, your new schools are in for a treat, because you are all AMAZING. Ms Broachi, the team and I, are extremely proud of you and cannot wait to hear how you get on.

However, if you visit for school fayres and plays (and we hope you do!), the green 'spinnny chairs' in Foundation Stage are still, and always will be, out of bounds!



OLLY & ARCHIE

This week we also say goodbye to Stay & Play staff, Olly and Archie. We want to say a huge thank you for all of your hard work - for both staff and pupils - and we wish you the very best as you move on from your A-Levels.

The children will miss you, as will we. Visit often!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING
ALL OF OUR NEW FOUNDATION
STAGE CHILDREN IN SEPTEMBER,
AND WE WISH THE ENTIRE
QUEEN ANNE COMMUNITY A
WONDERFUL SUMMER BREAK.

SAM, MS BROACHI, OLLY, ARCHIE,
HARRISON, LILY & SYDNEY