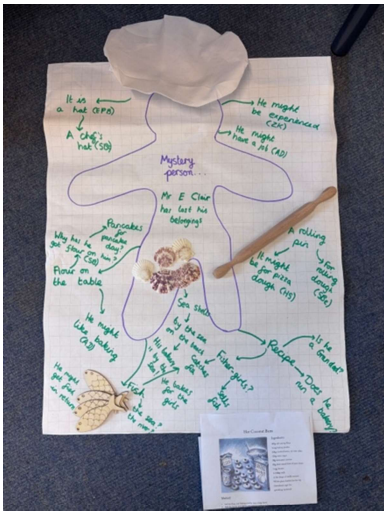
The Willow Word

Spring 2 has absolutely flown by – I cannot believe it is already time for the Easter holidays! We have certainly packed in some exciting learning opportunities.

Our key text in English this term has been *'Baker by the Sea'* by Paula Smith. The term started with Mr E. Clair sending Willow Class a letter and asking them to retrieve his lost items from around the classroom. We gathered lots of information about Mr E Clair from this and learnt that he was a baker who lived in a small seaside village. We explored the different jobs within the village described in the book and wrote job adverts to recruit new rope makers and fish smokers. We then explored more persuasive features to create tourist brochures for Willow Bay!



Our RE lessons this term have focussed on the concept of Salvation and the Easter story. Children recalled key events from across Holy Week and explored how different characters from the bible were feeling during these days. We compared ways Christians celebrated Good Friday and Easter Sunday and even made our own Easter Gardens to be a part of our Easter Service on the last day of term.

The sun has shone for us on Monday afternoons, meaning we have had plenty of opportunity to learn and play during forest school. The children have used fire strikers to light fires, tools to cut and whittle sticks and a great deal of teamwork has been demonstrated each week as children worked together to create a rope swing (with a little help from Mrs Archer for the knots!). We are so lucky to have an incredible outdoor space and it has been great seeing children develop so many skills outside of the classroom.

To celebrate British Science week, Oak and Willow class had the opportunity to design, code and build their own 'bot', which detected noise in the classroom and waved when it became too noisy. We took part in an Electronics workshop with the 'Electronics Skills Foundation.' The children worked fantastically together and demonstrated STEM attributes such as collaboration, patience and problem-solving skills. A big thank you to Mrs Gilbert, whose company sponsored the event and UK Electronics Skills Foundation for the kits (@UKESF).