

Dear Parents,

Well, we have very nearly made it through our first half term unscathed! (Fingers crossed that nothing happens in the next 2 days!)

In the past few weeks many of our local school neighbours (and in Trafford as a whole) have had to shut bubbles in their schools. Whilst it is a matter of WHEN one of our bubbles goes down (not IF) I think we owe an awful lot to luck, that we have managed somehow not to shut any bubbles - yet. But I also want to thank the dedication of the staff and children in sticking to all of our systems and processes whilst at school and to all you parents who are maintaining the social distancing rules (or the rules that happen to be in place at any given time!) All of our efforts are helping to keep all bubbles in school open and I would urge everyone to continue sticking to rules to give our children the best chance of staying in school over what looks like it may be a difficult winter!

I have to tell you that after a few weeks back in school, the children have amazed me – they are all doing brilliantly, working incredibly hard, showing such resilience and determination to do their very best work and they are making me very proud of them – you should be too! I am honoured to be the headteacher of such a special place, where our children are so (as *Roald Dahl* would say) absolutely fantabulistic!

I hope that you all have a peaceful and healthy October half term. Get out and enjoy the last of the daylight hours (obviously, when and where it is safe to do so and make sure you stick to the rules!) and I look forward to seeing everyone again in November!



Mrs Walmsley

Staff News

I am delighted to welcome the newest member of the Park Road family – Aria Kerr (Mrs Kerr's daughter) was welcomed to the world on Monday 14th September. Both mum and baby are doing really well. Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Kerr on the birth of their daughter.

Last Friday we also said a fond farewell to Mrs Brougham. Mrs Brougham has worked at Park Road for 24 years as one of our dinnertime assistants. For many years she was on our playground looking after the children before moving into our kitchen help with the dinners. Over the years she has seen hundreds of children through our doors and helped them out at lunchtime. For any of you with older siblings, they will have many fond memories of Mrs Brougham on the playground – she was wonderful with the children and cared so much about them. She tells me she is going to be a lady of leisure and will enjoy spending her time doing nothing much! We send all our best wishes to her for a happy, healthy and long retirement!

Winter Clothing

Now that the weather has turned (it definitely feels like autumn now) please can you get your children to remember to wrap up! Government guidance is still that we get children outside as much as possible – so we will go out to play in all weathers! Children do not melt if they get wet and as Alfred Wainwright said "There's no such thing as bad weather – just unsuitable clothes!" Children need a warm and reasonably waterproof/showerproof coat!

More importantly, guidance is that we still have to keep fresh air circulating in our classrooms and to keep windows open as much as possible. Whilst we can do a few things to mitigate against the cold with the windows and we will have the heating on full blast, the classrooms will still get chilly and so I have advised children that they can wear vests/t-shirts and layers under their uniform.

School Dinners

From **Monday 2nd November**, our school canteen will be cooking hot meals! It has taken us a bit longer than expected to get back to hot dinners due to staffing issues in the kitchen and so I want to thank you for your patience with this.

As we do for playtimes, the children will have staggered eating times. Reception will go first, followed by KS1, then lower KS2 then upper KS2. The children will go into the dining room to eat their lunches and be sat in their classes with their year group bubble - socially distanced from the other year group bubble; with other measures in place to ensure that children stay apart from each other at all times whilst in the dining hall. I've managed to move the furniture around so that the gap between one year group bubble and another is almost 4 metres! Please note that we will not be offering the salad bar due to social distancing measures we will have in place.

This means that you can now log onto our school meal system – Evolve – and order your child's hot dinners. **Please remember that there is a 3 day cut off for ordering** and if you don't order in time your child will get the generic option of a jacket potato and filling. You can order a few weeks in advance if you so wish – which may help with general life organisation (especially if you are anything like me and forget to do these things!) New parents to the school will have had the information and logon details about Evolve right at the start of the year but if anyone needs any help with logging on or ordering, please just get in touch with the office – who will be able to help you.

Parents Evening

Our parent consultations will take place during the first week back after the October half term.

For obvious reasons, we will not be having parents evening in person. Instead, we will be holding them virtually using a new online system called 'School Cloud'. You will be able to log onto School Cloud using a unique link to you to book your appointment and then use the system to make the video call with your child's teacher. A separate email/letter will come out in the next day or so (Once I've set everything up) to give you all the information you need.

Because the consultations will be via video calls and each appointment will be 10 minutes long this time, we will not be having a 'parents evening'. Instead, appointments will be throughout the day from 8:30 until 5:30 pm and your child's class teacher will have their own specified day for parent consultations during this first week. The letter will give you more details.

At this consultation, your child's teacher will be able to discuss with you how they have settled back into school after lockdown, if there are any needs that we (or you) have identified and also give you targets in English and maths that your child needs to work on to support children in catching up any lost learning from lockdown.

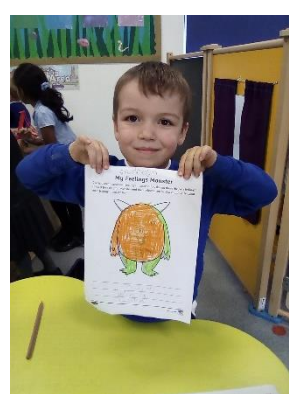
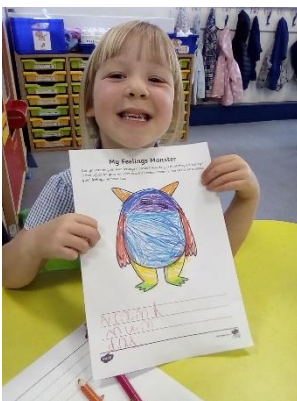
Consideration for our Neighbours

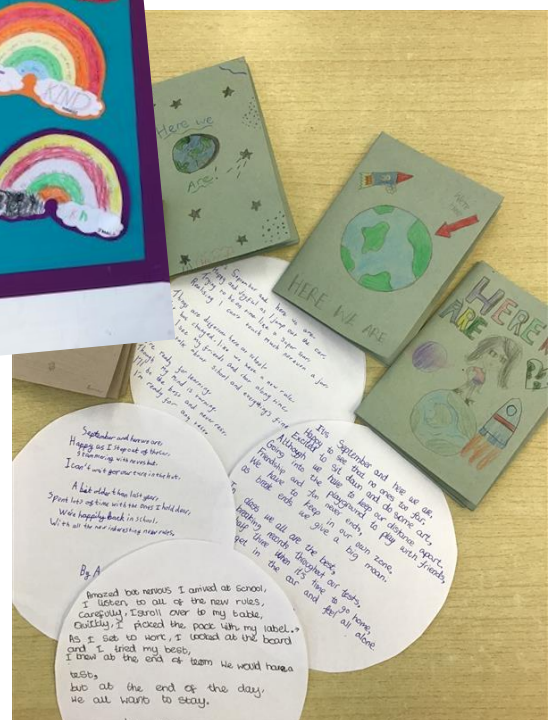
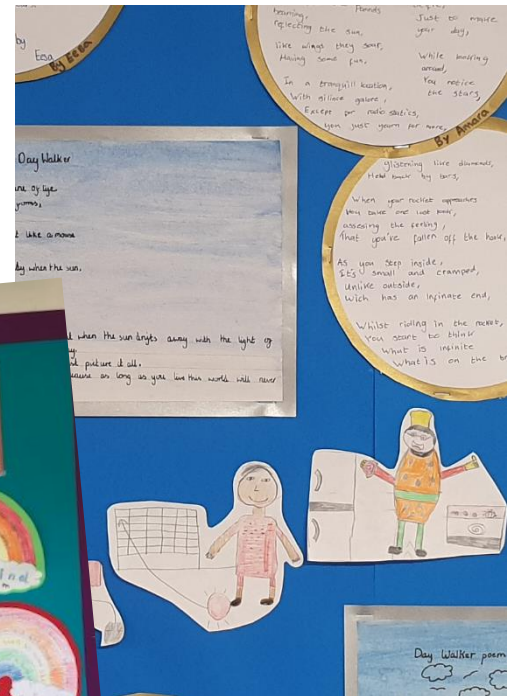
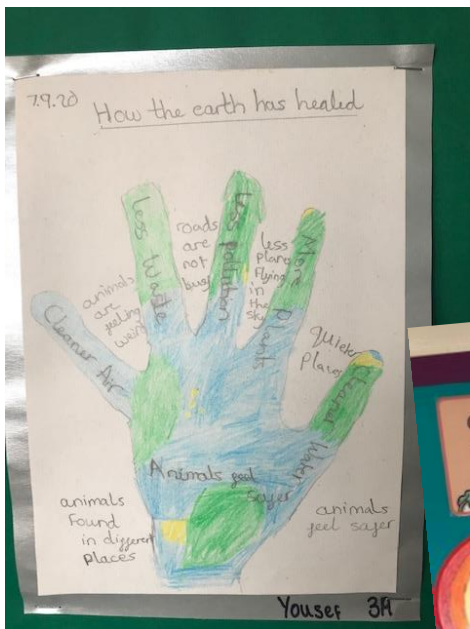
The age old problem of parents driving around school and parking unsafely has arisen once again. Please can I remind everyone that families should be walking to school wherever possible and if you do have to come in a car please park away from the school and definitely NOT across someone's driveway. Opposite our main entrance on Park Road, the houses have drives with dropped kerbs and solid white lines across. These lines are there to prevent you from parking across the drives. Whilst it may only be for a couple of minutes it is still inconsiderate to our neighbours and dangerous as it prevents our children from crossing the road safely.

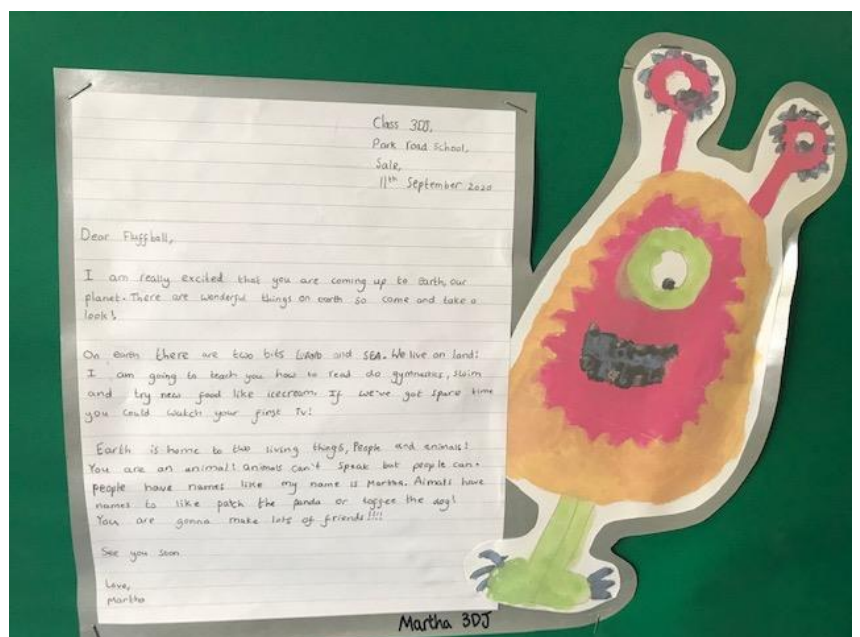
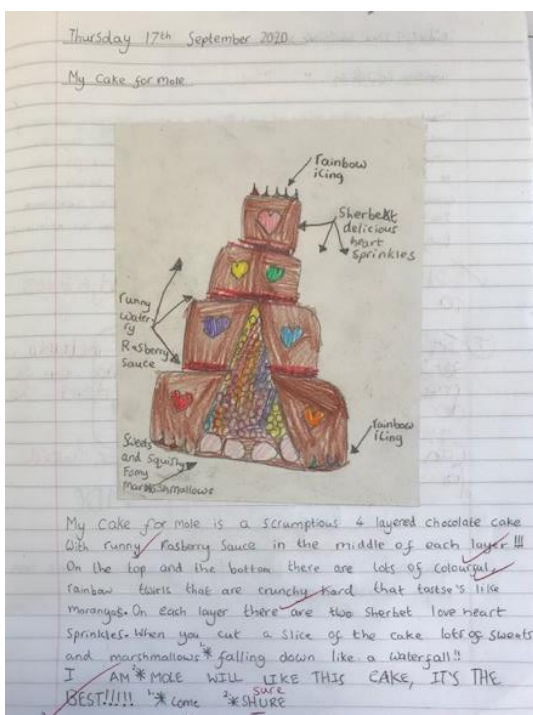
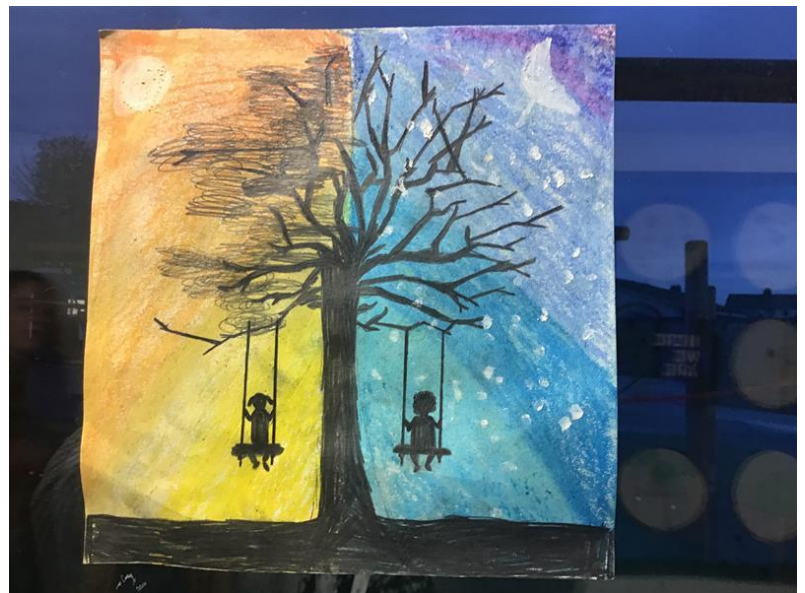
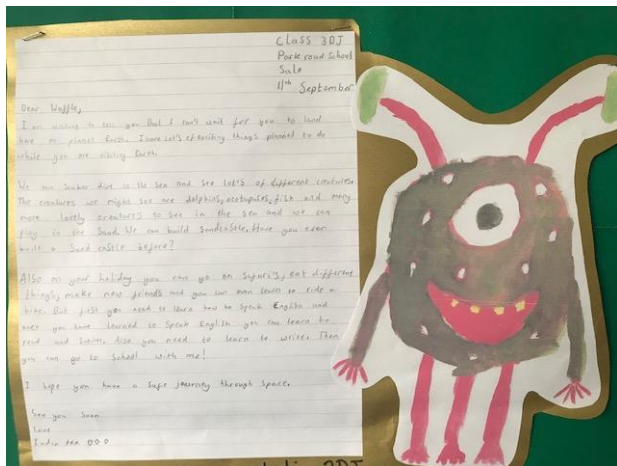
However, we also have a new problem that has arisen because of where parents are waiting socially distanced. Some parents and children are leaning on fences / walls / hedges of our neighbour's properties and in some instances causing damage. Please can I politely request that you don't lean on someone else's property. One of the rules we teach children is to 'treat everyone and everything the way we would expect to be treated' and I know all of you wouldn't like anyone leaning on your property damaging it – please please can we a little bit more thoughtful and considerate of our neighbours. Thank you.

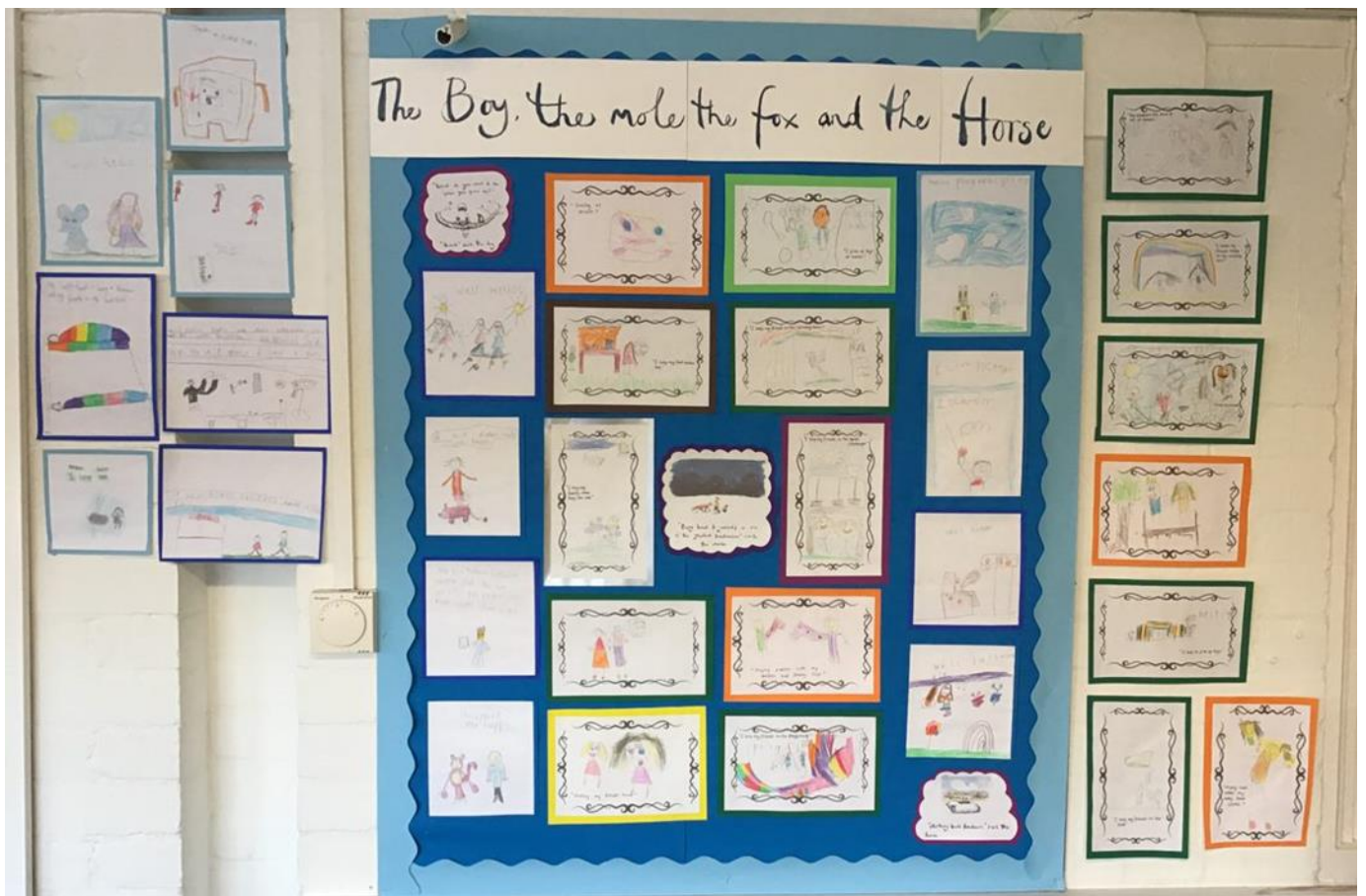
Work we have done in school.

When we returned to school in September, the whole school used a couple of texts as the basis for all of their learning – as part of a recovery curriculum which focussed on wellbeing. These texts brought the whole school together and work is displayed in all our corridors around the school. The children wanted to share their work with you so the photos below show just a snap shot of some of the learning the children did.









L.O. To write a diary entry as the boy -

My stomach filled with anxiety as I watched note as he plunged into the icy cold depths of the lake.

"Hello"

My heart flew up into my mouth whilst I was tumbling off the mare. It was ~~very~~ terrifying!

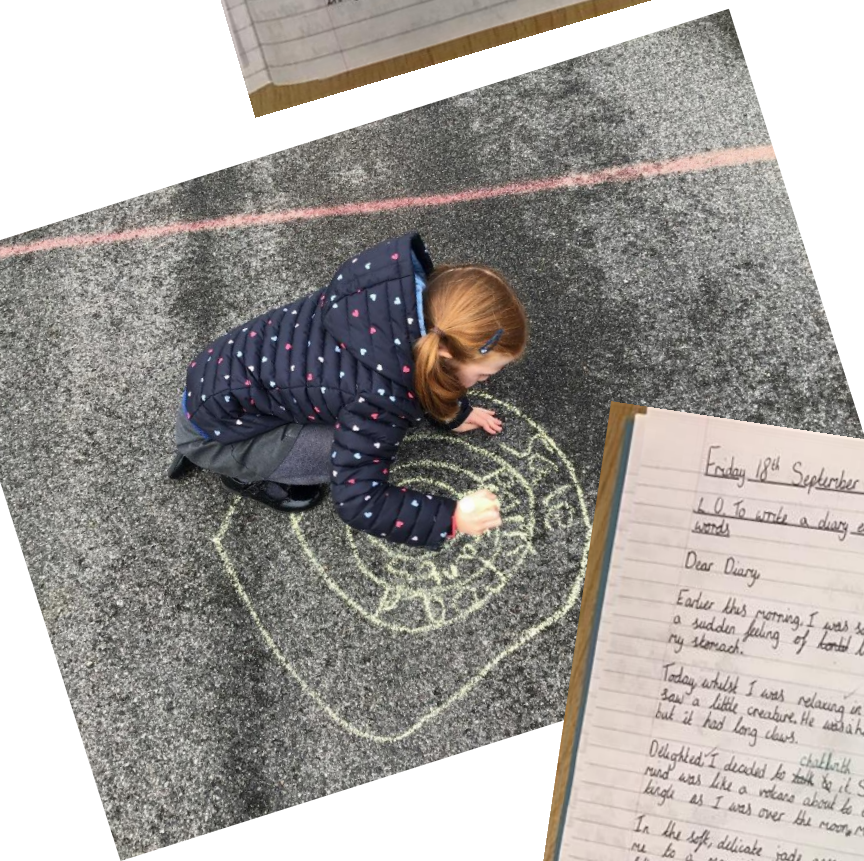
Today whilst I was still relaxing in the short, emerald grass I saw a little creature. I was delighted to make a new friend.

Waves of anger flew into me, like a fierce eagle coming for it's prey. A fox threatened to kill my new, dear friend, note.

I felt speechless as the chestnut mare hovered in the air with magnificent pearl coloured wings.

*Stomach twisted in amazement.

In the soft, delicate green grass, the note brought out to a magnificent place called the wild. My mouth fell open and my stomach



Friday 18th September 2020

L.O. To write a diary entry as the boy - using feelings words

Dear Diary

Earlier this morning, I was ~~so~~ ^{surprisedly} hunched over whilst a sudden feeling of ~~horrid~~ loneliness and despair swam in my stomach.

Today whilst I was relaxing in the short, ~~green~~ ^{emerald} grass I saw a little creature. He was a ~~hazel~~ ^{hazel} coloured animal, ~~runable~~ ^{runable}, but it had long claws.

Delighted, I decided to ~~take~~ ^{chat with} it. Surprisingly, it replied! My mind was like a volcano about to erupt! My body began to ~~buckle~~ ^{shake} as I was over the moon, making a new friend!

In the soft, delicate jade green grass, the note brought me to a magnificent place called the wild. My mouth fell open and my stomach twisted in amazement.

~~My heart~~ ^{My heart} dropped into my stomach as I saw ~~as~~ ^{as} I ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~about~~ ^{about} to ~~go~~ ^{go} to ~~for~~ ^{for} it and I did, but I was ~~pelting~~ ^{pelting} it was going to kill my friend note!

My stomach filled with anxiety as I watched note as he plunged into the icy, cold depths of the lake.

I knelt on the overbank ~~trying~~ ^{trying} to save note, fox jumped over my body, as too, he plunged into the lake. A sense of relief swirled around in my body. As I saw note come out.

After that stroke, we ~~strided~~ ^{strode} across the field, being careful that none of us would fall into another lake. I don't remember what colour the horse was, but it was a mare. She was really nice too!

She was a chestnut coloured horse I think. But she let me ride on her back! My heart flew up into my mouth whilst I was tumbling off the mare. It ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~was~~ ^{was} terrifying!

Bewildered, the horse ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~help~~ ^{help} was brave. I didn't understand, but being the warm-hearted horse she was, she explained it all to me. I felt loved and cared for, and I loved and cared for them too.

I felt speechless as the chestnut mare hovered in the air with beautiful magnificent pearl coloured wings. She flew around my fox and note's head showing up all her tricks. We asked her why we've never seen her fly before and she replied, "I don't fly because other horses don't have wings and I don't want to show off and make them feel bad!"

Note, fox and the horse all told me, "There is not always a place. I didn't understand what they meant at first, but now I understand, and they are right my horse is with them and wherever I go with my friends and family."

Love from, The Boy Boy

*He clutched out with note on his back, note looked like he was clenching for his dear life, and he was! I am so honoured to have had all the wonderful friends I

