

An aerial photograph of a town with various buildings and green spaces. Overlaid on the image are several colorful silhouettes of human figures in various poses, representing diversity and community. The silhouettes are in shades of cyan, green, blue, yellow, pink, red, and light blue. The title 'BEAUTIFUL THINGS' is written in large, bold, white letters with a colorful outline, centered over the image. Below the title is the subtitle 'A book of amazing ideas for Parr' in a smaller, white font.

BEAUTIFUL THINGS

A book of amazing ideas for Parr

Before you read this book you should watch the film we made about Parr. Follow the link via this QR code to watch our film.



Introduction

Hello and welcome to our book.

This is a book made by Project Parr, a project all about Parr by children from Broad Oak Community Primary School. We are a lovely, peaceful group where we share fabulous ideas. Project Parr is meant to help bring the community together and make Parr even better. Last year we made a film called *The Beautiful Things About*.

This book is about our ideas for the future of Parr. We have created these ideas so that hopefully in the future we can make one of them real. It may not turn out exactly as we imagine but we will do our best. Please read all our ideas and at the end we want you to tell us what you think of them. We also interviewed some people to find out from them how you turn a good idea into something real.

Before you start reading this book, you might need a moment to relax and be calm for an hour or two. Get rid of all your other books because you will only want to read this one. Find a quiet place and get a snack because the book is quite long. Maybe get some popcorn and a drink.

Think about how children can and should be heard when they need to be. We also need respect. Children may be younger and know a little less, but we still have creative minds and good ideas

and if we listen to you then we should also be listened to. We can tell you if you get something wrong. If you give us a chance to explain our thoughts about things we can actually help the community. We are people too and even though we can't drive we can still reach our dreams.

When you're reading our book we want you to feel happy and also funny (because it's gonna be funny). Be inspired by what we're doing. Remember that children and adults should always share creative thoughts. Think and remember how we have come together to make this book and know what our community really is. Parr is a good place.

After you've finished reading this book go out and inspire other people into reading it and once everyone in Parr has read it maybe send it to Japan. Put it on Facebook so we are famous. Use our ideas if you want or give us money so we can make them. Do a good thing for Parr.

We want to make Parr a better place because we live here and we can do something to help impact the future of Parr. We are divas and baddies and we want to feel like we are at home here. To make life better for animals and so that more people come. We hope Parr takes inspiration from our book. We hope we can become a well-known community and that all the litter will be picked up and then we might get respect. We hope everyone helps each other.

Thank you for reading our book. Please enjoy our fabulous ideas.

Chapter 1

These are our first two ideas.

A MONUMENT

A monument is a building or statue that is important in some way. It will either have a story behind it or it will represent something or someone. It's a structure that stands upright and other people look at it, enter it or use it for inspiring them, and it stays there nearly forever.

We want to build a monument on the roundabout on Derbyshire Hill Road so that everyone who comes to Parr will see it and be inspired by it.

The monument might be a sculpture of a hand sticking out of the ground holding a custard cream the size of a fridge, with the hand grabbing the custard cream and the fingers wrapping around the whole biscuit. This would be to honour our teacher Ms Bennett who is the best, and other people like her who don't get enough attention.

Or it might be a monument of our other teacher Mrs Ryder's classroom, with desks and a TV and statues of Mrs Ryder and some children running around the class. The monument would be bright and colourful and would remind all the children who see it to be nicer to their teachers and that teachers should be celebrated more for everything they do. You could also play on it or use the desks to have picnics.

Or it might be a statue of a radioactive glow-in-the-dark mushroom about the same size as a streetlamp that looks majestic and makes people laugh, or a life-size statue of two besties in school uniform doing Pose 28 to remind and inspire people to be friendly and get lots of friends and be happy.

Or it might be a monument of a red and green apple the size of a small car with a cinnamon ferret coming out of it. This monument would remind people why it's so important to stay healthy. People will appreciate its cuteness, and more people will want to come to Parr to see it.

Whatever monument we make it will be inspiring and majestic. People will come all the way from China and Australia to see it. It will be world-famous.



THE MONUMENT



Welcome to our
Scavenger Hunt

ST. HELENS METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
The Duckeries
PART OF THE MERSEY FOREST
COUNTRYWIDE



A SCAVENGER HUNT

A scavenger hunt is when someone hides loads of stuff and treasure and people follow clues and look around for it. There is always a prize at the end, probably in a treasure chest.

We want to make a scavenger hunt so that people can make friends. They'll get to touch grass and get their eyes off Roblox and YouTube and actually be adventurous for a while. It will give them a chance to follow trails, explore nature and have fun. When they get to the end they'll know the feeling of success and feel good about themselves.

The scavenger hunt will happen on The Duckeries because it's a place where people have fun. We live close to there and whenever we're there we get to do so much stuff. We go on the swings and we go biking and when there's snow we go sledging. It has memories of when we were little and we played there.

The scavenger hunt will start at the gate at the entrance to The Duckeries with a sign saying, 'Welcome to our Special Scavenger Hunt', then you go down the path and into lots of other activities. Everyone will play in teams because teamwork makes the dream work. You will have a map and later you'll uncover more maps which lead to the actual treasure. We'll install doors around The Duckeries and you have to find the keys to unlock them in the right order. If you try and take a short cut one of us will catch you and show you that short cuts don't lead to success.

There will be hidden pieces of a jigsaw puzzle that you have to collect and logic puzzles where you must use your brain. On

some of the trees we'll write the first part of a joke and then you need to find another tree that has the second part. There'll be a sightseeing chart with birds to spot along the way. We will be hiding in the bushes and jump out to reward people.

At the very end of the scavenger hunt you'll find a treasure chest with 10 tickets to see our film, *The Beautiful Things About*, and some Project Parr merch, plus a voucher card which gives you a £50 prize. When people get there, they will prove to themselves that they can do anything they want. When you never give up you make it.

This scavenger hunt is going to be fun. We hope people from other countries come. But not Elon Musk — he could choose to solve hunger, depression and half the world's problems but instead he just buys Mars Rovers like a dumbo.

Chapter 2

Andreea, Faye, Jessica and Lola interview Khan Oditia, the creator of UrbanScape, a community garden in Toxteth.

Andreea: How are you?

Khan: Yeah, I'm really good.
Happy to be here.

Andreea: What are your hobbies?

Khan: I am really big on video. I have cameras. I have a drone. I like to shoot little films and take pictures and things, especially at the garden because I live so close to the garden. I'll go out there and I'll take some nice pictures of the flowers. That's one thing that I do.

Andreea: What was your life like growing up?

Khan: You know, where I come from, this is Toxteth. So, this is half an hour away by car. And I suppose it's kind of similar to Parr in a way. Toxteth is really multicultural. There's lots of people from different backgrounds. And growing up, I had a relatively

comfortable experience.

I went to a good school, like you guys do, a good primary school. I suppose that's allowed me to be comfortable exploring creative things like this. That's not to say that I was advantaged in any way. I wasn't, I'm not rich. I only live with my mum. And my mum also doesn't have loads of money. But again, we didn't go without. My mum worked really hard to make sure that when I was your age, when I was a bit older, that I had what I needed and what I wanted. But she worked unbelievably hard to make that happen.

Andreea: As a kid, when you grew up, was there a lot of trash in your area?

Khan: 100%. I still wouldn't say I'm fully grown just yet and there's still a little bit

of litter, but the problem we had was fly tipping. Fly tipping is not like litter where people will leave a cup, it's where people will leave a fridge. Can you imagine that? People would be leaving TVs on this patch of grass. Or mattresses. It was terrible. And it was like that for as long as I could remember.

Faye: Why did you want to change the community by making a community garden?

Khan: Because no one else was. I saw the issue and everyone else saw the issue. And I decided... it was during my summer holidays actually. School had finished. My mum said, make sure you do something good with your time. And when I was walking around outside and I saw this, I realised at that



point that, 'You know what, this is a cycle: people will dump a mattress, and then the council will turn up and they'll take the mattress away, but then someone will dump another mattress'. I thought, 'Well, how can we stop that from happening?'

Andreea: This is not a question, but I've noticed in the image there's not many bins, which is causing people to litter a lot.

Khan: Yeah, and you know what? I think you should tell the council because I have. And they don't listen to me.

Andreea: I'm very confident talking to people, and I don't mind actually speaking to the council. If I had a chance, I would actually just go and tell them to make more bins.

Khan: Yeah. Thank you.

Faye: How did you get people

to join the activities?

Khan: So it took a lot of effort. The main way that I got people to get involved was I knocked on their doors and I spoke to them. Or I printed off hundreds of flyers. And I'd put them through their letterboxes one by one over an afternoon. Me and my mum and my nan sometimes would all do that. And it did work. It did work because we got some people on side. And then once the garden was built, I then had people that'd come in and they'd remove weeds and things. And then eventually people came together.

Lola: How did you get permission to make the garden?

Khan: I didn't really. I actually didn't. So, we just started our campaign and it was entirely just me raising

money and speaking to people and then trying to negotiate. I would speak to the council and say, 'Can we have this land to do the garden?' And they would come back and say, 'Yes, you could. But you're going to have to wait a couple of weeks and we'll get back to you and talk to someone' et cetera. Eventually we got this thing. It's called a lease. It's like where you pay somebody for something over a long period of time, but you never own it. They always own the thing, but you pay for it to use it. And then after about a year, that lease ran out. Then the council just owned the land, but we have built on it. So, it's ours basically. They don't maintain it. The council don't pick up the litter. They haven't put a

bin in it. We do all of that stuff. So technically it's ours.

Andreea: Didn't you say that the mayor used to pick up trash?

Khan: Well, he has visited. Yeah. The mayor has visited. He's been really helpful. The mayor was really supportive. He actually gave us lots of money to build this. So, I had £750. The mayor gave us £30,000. So he had a lot of money. And that's what made this happen. Really.

Andreea: Did people ever leave stuff that you could have used for the garden?

Khan: Oh, yeah. Loads of times, loads of times. We've had loads of people turn up and they will just leave plants there. And basically they would donate stuff like flowers, shrubs. Someone's left a litter picker in the



garden for us to use. We have a letterbox and people will put packets of seeds in there so we can plant the seeds and they'll become flowers.

Andreea: What would you have done if the council was not on your side and told you to take it down?

Khan: Well, I'm glad that we didn't get to that point because it would have been very sad. I would have been sad and maybe a bit angry. Ultimately I'd like to believe that if that did happen we would push back and say, 'Well actually, no, we are going to build this because we have the community backing.' And I think it's because the community supported the project that the council didn't say that. And it's also why they're leaving it as it is as well.

Andreea: Before the garden started, were there people also trying to help? Like, were there people taking out the litter and trying to change it too?

Khan: No, no, it was me that actually started that. And it was me that hired a skip so that we could put the mattresses and all of these objects in this huge bin basically. And bringing this skip, then people got involved and helped move the stuff. But before I did that, nobody was doing anything.

Andreea: Before I knew the garden's purpose, I was thinking that there would be animals coming in there.

Khan: Yeah, we've had squirrels. Cats like to walk through as well. All kinds, small birds, lots of different animals. We don't have any hedgehogs

yet, but that would be nice. The sunflowers, the squirrels would eat the seeds from them. He pulled the whole sunflower down to him and then he nibbled away the sunflower and took the seeds. Well, he was helping because next year there were sunflowers everywhere. Instead of eating the seeds, they bury them. So he took all of these seeds and from five sunflowers, we then had 20. So, you know, he was helping. The squirrel was helping.

Chapter 3

Two more of our ideas for Parr.

A PARR-ADE

The Parr-ade is a parade around Parr. This parade is not like any other. It will be fun and exciting and everyone will go with their friends. If any refugees come to Parr they can learn things about Parr and how it's the best here. If they don't speak English we'll have translators. We can speak Russian and Romanian so we can help.

At the Parr-ade everyone will wear blue and the streets will look like waves with parade floats bobbing in the water. At the front will be a float with the legendary Project Parr logo. On the next float will be Dolly from Madison Court Care Home because she is special and is the oldest person we have ever met. She'll be sat in a big chair and singing a nice song whilst around her we throw QR codes into the crowd so people can watch our movie (which she is in).

The next float will be the No Littering float because we are very committed to that. On the float will be a giant bin and signs that say, 'do no litter' and we'll hand out trash bags to people in the crowd so they can pick up any litter they see.

The next float in the Parr-ade is in honour of the Corner Shop. On it will be a man in a Peperami suit and a big Monster Munch bag

(specifically Pickled Onion). As it goes by people can get king size Peperami and Monster Munch. There'll be a song playing called Peperami and Monster Munch (like Peanut Butter Jelly Time). At the end of the parade the shopkeepers from the corner shop will come on the float and take a bow.

Then we'll have a float for the fish and chip shop, with a giant plate of fish and chips and a Capri Sun on top. Ervis the fish and chip man will be on the float holding plates of fish and chips to hand to people in the crowd.

There will be other floats as well, like a giant duck for The Duckeries, a flower-themed float where we all sit on the float holding flowers and handing them out to people, a Christmas float, a Sankey Valley float with a giant mushroom, a Beckie and Andy themed float, and one for all the teachers at Broad Oak. We'll make a dance and teach it to everyone and that will be part of the parade as well.

There will be food and a meet-and-greet section where people just meet each other, and a Q&A with us — the makers of the Parr-ade — and a merch shop and signed autographs and everywhere the parade goes you'll hear the sound of waves.

At the end a special guest will come out and we'll all clap and there'll be one big beat and then we'll get the microphone and say, 'This is the end of the Parr-ade'. Then our teachers will join us and they will seem proud.

The motto of the parade will be 'Welcome to the Parr-ade, we are kids but we're on a higher stage'.





THE PARR-NIVAL

We want to throw a big party in Parr to get people out of their houses, off their phones and make the world a better place. This party will be called The Parr-nival.

Everyone in the community would be invited. All the people from the care homes, our families, celebrities like Rick Astley and Ronaldo, everyone we interviewed in our film, and everyone we interviewed for this book. We'll put up posters all around Parr to tell everyone to come and we'll make custom tickets with our faces on them to give out to the VIPs.

At the entrance to the party there will be a velvet rope that we open as people come in. There will be dodgeball as everyone loves that and bingo and a mini-farm with goats and chickens. A Lego-building competition and a giant chess board. A crèche for babies and a chill-out zone and a reading area. There will be darts and bracelet making and a gaming truck. A bouncy castle assault course and a floating bouncy castle on water. We'll have dancers everywhere and onstage the Broad Oak Choir will perform Mamma Mia, Rolling in the Deep and a new song that we'll write especially for this occasion.

There will also be football matches at the Parr-nival. Students vs Teachers. People from School vs People from the Community. Everton fans vs Liverpool fans. We'll have face painting with the elderly and we'll screen our film in the film tent. There will be beds and benches. A judo performance and a drawing competition. We'll run workshops to teach all the skills we've learnt on Project Parr

and the whole party will be livestreamed for people who can't be there.

There will be a feast at the party with a hot dog stand, an ice cream truck, candy floss, a popcorn machine and a Toby Carvery. We'll have a bar with a special Project Parr mocktail. Churros with Nutella, a chocolate lava cake and Dr Pepper. Gammon and chicken nuggets and ramen and dumplings and steak. We'll have the old chicken goujons like we used to have in Year 3, not the new ones, and a man made out of hot dogs and chocolate covered apples. You can buy anything you want using Project Parr vouchers that we will hand out to everybody.

The rules of the party will be no swearing, no being mean, no screaming or shouting because you might startle the elderly people. At the entrance you must drop your phone off in a locked box. Be respectful. No breaking stuff and walking off. Own up to your mistakes. There's no dress code at the Parr-nival. People can wear whatever they want.

At the end of the night there will be fireworks and a goodbye song and we'll all go onstage and say something to the audience and bow.

We'll have party bags with sweets for kids and pudding and alcohol for the adults and everyone who comes to the party will get a custom Lego brick with the Project Parr logo on it to remember an amazing day.

Chapter 4

Lucas, Maddox, Maggie, Olivia and Sophia interview Patrick Fox, Chief Executive of Heart of Glass, an arts organisation in St Helens.

Sophia: What do you like doing when you're not at work?

Patrick: What do I like doing? I like spending time with friends and family. I like to travel and I like to go to concerts.

Sophia: What's the best concert you've ever been to?

Patrick: I went to see Billie Eilish recently. She was amazing.

Lucas: I don't know what a concert feels like.

Patrick: Lots of people. Lots of noise.

Sophia: I've watched a rugby game before.

Patrick: Kind of like that, actually. It's kind of loud.

Sophia: Have you ever done glassblowing?

Patrick: No, I've seen people do it. I've never done it though. I think it looks a bit scary.

Lucas: Why do you call it Heart of Glass?

Patrick: Because St Helens is famous for glass, isn't it?

Lucas: I thought all countries have glass.

Patrick: But St Helens invented a type of glass that no one else in the world invented.

Sophia: Have you ever made actual glass?

Patrick: No but I have seen it being made though. It's really warm. Lots of heat and it's made from sand, isn't it?

Lucas: How does sand get into glass?

Patrick: We need a scientist here I think to answer that one because I don't understand it either.

Lucas: So, Google then.

Patrick: Yeah, or Google. Google is another type of science, yeah.

Lucas: Have you ever got Rickrolled?

Patrick: I have been Rickrolled. I've been Rickrolled way too many times actually. My niece tortures me with Rickrolls. She's constantly sending them to me. Did you know that the guy in the Rickroll, Rick Astley, is from St Helens as well?

Lucas: Is he?

Patrick: Yeah, he's from St Helens. He's from Newton.

Lucas: In what year did you start the Heart of Glass?

Patrick: We started Heart of Glass in 2014.

Lucas: Why did you start the Heart of Glass?

Patrick: Where I grew up in Dublin I didn't really have a lot of chance to do these kinds of projects. So there was an opportunity to set something up in St Helens and work with lots of different members of the community and lots



of different artists and I thought, 'That sounds like fun.'

Lucas: So, you're saying that you've just done all of it by yourself?

Patrick: No, no, definitely not by myself.

Lucas: So who's people who helped you do this?

Patrick: Loads of people along the way. There's people like Suzanne, and Kate who I think some of you might have met. There's a few of us and then there's loads of people in the community and then people who might give us some money to do projects.

Lucas: How much do you think you've actually made?

Patrick: I think the last time that we counted, and we're not very good at counting sometimes, we've done about 2,000 projects.

Everyone: 2,000!

Sophia: What's your most popular project?

Patrick: Oh, that's a good question. I think probably the murals because so many people see them and people really seem to like them and look after them.

Olivia: What is your favourite project that you've done?

Patrick: Oh, I don't think I could pick one. I don't think I could pick a favourite project.

Lucas: Yeah, because you made about 2000.

Olivia: What's the biggest one though?

Patrick: Probably the biggest one is when we did a big theatre show but it wasn't in a theatre it was all in the streets, so you went into a bingo hall, you went into someone's house, you were in a taxicab. And you were

there with actors. So the whole show took place as you were going through town.

Olivia: What ideas do you have for the future?

Patrick: What ideas do we have for the future? That's a really good question. I suppose we just want to do more projects like this. Normally what happens in a project is that people kind of get together, have conversations, and then something just happens. And then we just try and make that a reality, really. So who knows? It's a bit of a blank page, the future.

Olivia: How would you help us to do an event?

Patrick: I guess what I always find really helpful is writing things down. So: who's the event for? How many people are coming? What might

people need when they're coming? Are you going to feed them? I think getting a list together of all the things that the event might need, and then thinking about how you do that... Will you need to do things like risk assessments? You might have to go, 'What if that light just fell down there? What would we do in that event?' Things like that.

Maggie: How should we raise enough money for a new project?

Patrick: When we do all these 2,000 projects, we have to raise money for it, and I think the best or the easiest way of doing that sometimes is that you tell the story of what you want to do. And then try and find out who it is that might be able to support you to do that. So, is it a parent? Is it

a teacher? Is it someone in another organisation? Who are the people that you need to be able to help you realise the thing that you want to do. I think telling the story as much as possible is a good way to get people to support you.

Maggie: Where would be the best place to put a pond?

Patrick: I guess in a park really. But where else could you put a pond that might be different? In a shopping centre? Could you put one on a bus? I mean it might spill over when you stop suddenly.

Maggie: You could put our Plant Museum in a broken-down bus, if you don't use it anymore.

Patrick: That's a really good idea! The idea of putting the Plant Museum on a bus is a great idea. We did a project

on a bus actually. Have you ever been to the Transport Museum in town?

Everyone: Oh yeah.

Patrick: They're kind of buses from years and years ago, we got one of them and we drove it around as part of a project. But that could be a driving garden, couldn't it? Why not? But you know what? Because they're so old they break down all the time.

Lucas: So what you're saying is you get in the bus and it starts driving and in one second it breaks down and more minutes later it starts working and for 10 minutes it works and one more minute it breaks down.

Patrick: That is literally what happened. That's exactly what happened.

Maggie: How do we get a lot of Lego to make a world record?

Patrick: I reckon the first thing we should do is write to Lego and see if they'll help us out.

Lucas: Can we call Lego?

Patrick: Yeah, we could just send a letter to Lego or an email and say, 'Do you want to do this thing? Will you help us?' See what they say. I will write to Lego for you if you want to.

Everyone: Yeah!

Patrick: I think Lego's from Denmark, isn't it? So we could find out where in Denmark and you could write to Lego. We could say, 'Send us all your Lego please...' The stuff they're not using anymore that's not selling, they might want to get rid of it.

Lucas: Pieces that are discontinued?

Patrick: Or discontinued, yeah.

Lucas: Well, I think the ones

that are discontinued, we won't be able to sell that.

Patrick: But we don't need to sell it, we just need to build something amazing.

Lucas: What about the cursed things?

Patrick: The connectors?

Lucas: There's some things that are cursed.

Patrick: Oh, cursed? I don't think we'll be using any cursed things. Yeah, we can just say, we definitely don't want any cursed things. Friendly Lego only.

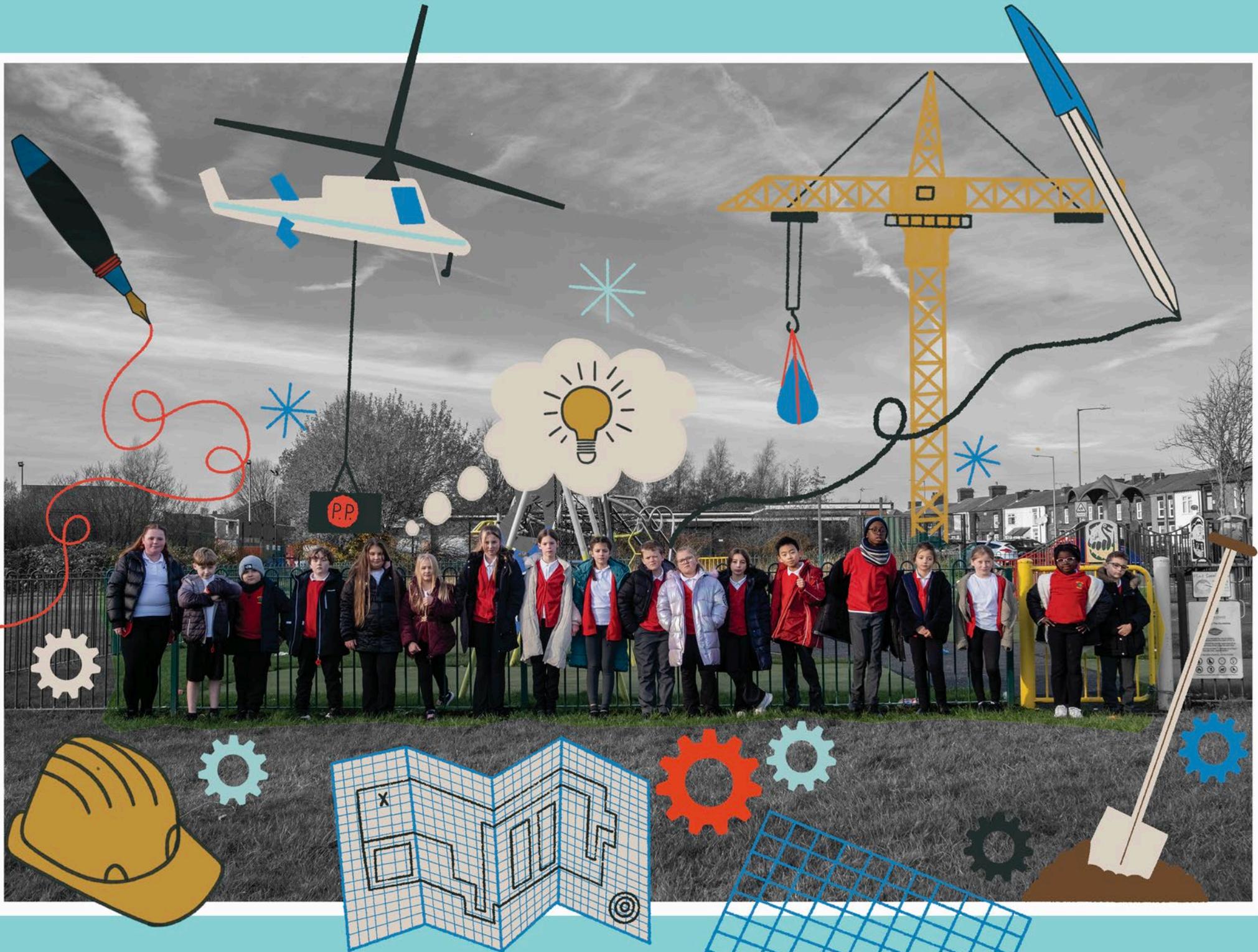
Maggie: Will you come to our book launch?

Patrick: I will definitely come to the launch, 100%.

Maggie: Do you have any advice for us when we're making a new project happen?

Patrick: I think everybody has different things that they're good at so I think put all

the things that everyone can do on the table and then see what is it that you can do together, with all those different skills that everybody has. Keep on talking to each other and make sure that everyone's okay and everyone is able to contribute. I think that's always good if you're making a project. Because if you're not talking to each other then you're not on a mission together.





Chapter 5

Two more amazing ideas for Parr.

A PLANT MUSEUM

A plant museum is a calm place we invented where you can look after plants. To make it we want to borrow an old bus from the Transport Museum and turn it into a living museum of plants. We invented the plant museum for everyone who loves plants and loves museums. It's for people who used to have allotments but couldn't keep them and who miss them. It's a place that ensures happiness in ourselves and others.

In the plant museum bus there will be loads of plants everywhere and experts to teach you about them. There will be vines hanging from the bus ceiling and wrapped around the handrail on the stairs. All the seats will have tray tables that fold down full of plant information and hammocks on the wall where you can just sit and relax. Everything will smell of lavender and cabbage rolls and flower fragrances that we spray in the air.

The most important rule of the plant museum is that if you need to ask for help you can. The second is to bring water.

Downstairs at the front of the bus we would remove the luggage holder and put a pond there with lily pads and water plants covered by a glass case with a key you can use to unlock it and show people. Upstairs at the back we will make a special

garden of really big plants, massive ones with little figures in them holding signs that say what type of plant it is so you can learn how to care for them.

There will be a water pistol arcade game where you try and knock down the sick plants and healthy ones pop up in their place and in this way kids will learn how to water the plants. There will be seed collections and a special plant classroom and a plant of the week in a little gallery space where each week we'll have cool weird plants from different countries that you can buy a small version of.

The plant bus will be warm and there will be a food stand upstairs with green beans, cabbage rolls, cabbage soup and cabbage pie. There will be plant-themed lessons, like maths but with plant-based questions and art classes where you can paint flowers. Once a year on Lend-a-Plant Day everyone will bring plants they don't need any more and give them to someone who doesn't have any plants to get looked after.

The plant museum will travel all around Parr visiting all the local streets so our friends can go to it. It will stop at the schools and at Sankey Valley and outside the All-American Diner. Sometimes it will go further away to Romania and Latvia and other countries as well. Whenever it is moving there will be plant tour guides to tell you about the trees and flowers outside.





A NEW POND

We want to build a new pond for Parr. Our pond will have lotus flowers and lily pads and be surrounded by daisies, roses, tulips and dandelions. It will have small lumps on the grass by the entrance to the pond so frogs can jump through.

There will be goldfish and ducks, seagulls and geese. There will be wooden decking and benches all the way around. A pagoda and flower boxes. A mini coffee shop and a sign that says, 'No Fishing' (the seagulls will make sure everyone obeys).

We'll have bird houses and bird treats and bird toys. Beak sharpeners and a steal-a-chip machine and tiny bird sunglasses for the seagull security.

For older people we'll have comfy chairs and reading material, knitting with soft yarn and massages with a pro-masseuse. For teenagers we'll make a cooking area and space for football and other sports. There will be a game where two teams compete to fill buckets with water as quickly as possible. We'll have bean bags and deckchairs and a place to bring your own pets, and an area for kids to calm down if they get stressed out.

Everyone in Parr can come and enjoy the pond and use it as their new inspiration.

Chapter 6

Alex, Arianna, Evie, Khaleel, Oscar and Sofia interview Chantelle Lunt, the founder of the Merseyside Alliance for Racial Equality, and Mayor of Halewood

Evie: Would you mind telling us a little bit about your life?

Chantelle: My name is Chantelle Lunt, and I live in a part of the Liverpool City region called Knowsley. My day job is that I'm a Researcher, so I research young people who grew up in care, like me, and I also do a bit of teaching. I am a councillor and I'm also the mayor of my town of Halewood. I also run an organisation called Merseyside Alliance for Racial Equality and as if that doesn't keep me busy enough I do some writing and sometimes do a little bit of media and things.

Evie: That's really interesting. Do you feel like... do you sometimes feel a bit overwhelmed with all of this stuff that you do?

Chantelle: All of the time, all of

the time. I'm neurodiverse. I have something called ADHD, which is Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. And part of that means that I do a lot of things, and my mind is very busy, so I tend to do a lot of things, and it keeps me very busy, but happy kind of busy.

Evie: What got you into doing such inspiring things?

Chantelle: I grew up in Halewood, and when I grew up, I experienced racism from a very young age. Then I moved away from Halewood, and when I moved back as an adult with my own children, my own children experienced racism as well. I was not really happy about that. But now that I'm an adult, I wanted to try and do something about it. So that's why I set up my organisation. And

while I was doing that work, a lot of the time I'd be going to the council and saying, 'Hey, this has happened in our area, what are we going to do about it so that everyone in our area feels safe?' I wasn't always getting the response that I felt it needed. And then when election time came up, some of the councillors were like, 'You know, you're really passionate about your community. How about you campaign to be on this council, and then your voice is really heard, and you can really be a part of decisions being made.' So then I campaigned and became a part of the council.

Evie: It's actually really cool that you were able to do all that stuff, even though you were still quite young.

Alex: How did you make the



Merseyside Alliance for Racial Equality? Was it hard?

Chantelle: I had a lot of help. You can create an organisation on your own, but it's always best to have a few people. There's four other Directors. And luckily for me, some of those people were more interested in paperwork than I was. It was hard, but I'd say sometimes when something's hard, it's helpful to reach out to other people and say, 'Hey, I'm stuck with this. This is what I want to do. It's a really big thing. Is there anyone with the skills to help?' Quite often people will reach back and help you.

Alex: How did you get people to join your group?

Chantelle: I just asked. I just kept on keeping people informed about what I was

doing, but also when I was informing them, saying, 'You can be part of this too.'

Arianna: Did you have to work really hard for money to make your group?

Chantelle: Yes. A lot of what we do in our work isn't paid. This is why I have a million other things that I do. Sometimes we do projects that are completely unfunded, which means everything is just voluntary and we're doing it because it's really important to us. Other times, we're more fortunate in that we'll get some funds in and we can pay people and we can do a specific bit of work.

Oscar: How is it to create equality?

Chantelle: I would say we're striving to create equality because the world that we live in at the moment isn't as equal as we'd like it to be.

There's a lot of division and there's a lot of people who feel quite frightened at the moment. But we are striving for a world where that isn't the case and where we don't look at someone and make a judgment about them because of what their skin colour is, or how they look, or how their accent sounds, if you think about someone's class. But at the moment, it does feel like a bit of a struggle because since 2020, if we think about that as being where a lot of our work started, there has been a lot of opposition. We're possibly working against a lot more than we were five years ago, but it just highlights how important the work that we do is.

Oscar: What is it like being a mayor?

Chantelle: Being the mayor is interesting. And it's a big honour. So, I grew up in Halewood and my foster mum was a community organiser. She did loads with young people. She spent about 30 years there and they were the best 30 years of her life. She's passed away now. And then when I went to live in Halewood, even now, if I walk around, people remember me from when I was a kid and they say, 'Oh, are you one of Joan's girls?' Because that's what we were all known as, Joan's girls. She always fostered girls. And that makes me really proud. I don't know if you can see, but this Africa necklace, is my mum's chain. When she passed away, she gave this to me. This is how I remember. Whenever I wear my mayor chain, especially when I'm

sat down, the Africa chain touches the mayor chain. So, I always feel like my mum's with me and I always feel like my mum's watching me and I always feel really proud to be mayor. So, I feel very, very proud.

Sofia: How could we get people to join in with our project?

Chantelle: I would say a little bit like the stuff that I did with Merseyside Alliance, find ways to get your message out there. Designing a poster or some sort of publicity that you could get out there. Have an idea about who you want to get involved. Is it other schools and other young people? Is it parents?

Sofia: Just in general.

Chantelle: Find your community. Find your community spaces. Find your community notice

boards. Get the message out there. Design a message that would be really clear to people what your project is about and how they can get involved.

Sofia: How did you get permission to do things that you had done?

Chantelle: For most of them I didn't need permission. I really felt like there was a big part of the conversation that I could contribute to. So I said, 'Do you know what? I'm going to stop asking people for permission and I'm just going to set my own thing up and see how it goes.' That was one of the best decisions that I've ever made. We don't always need permission to do things, but it's sometimes polite to ask.

Khaleel: If we want to get money for our project, do you have any advice?

Chantelle: I would say don't be afraid to ask. Some of the funding that we got was through putting a fundraiser out there, but a lot of the funds came because we just asked. I always remember sitting down with a very, very wealthy businessman. He said to me, 'Do you know how many people don't ask for what they need?' And do you know how often if you ask for what you need, even if people can't give money, they will give you time or resources or help or support.

Khaleel: Do you have any recommendations for us about starting something new?

Chantelle: Yeah. I would say be brave. Reach out to as many people as you know who've done something like

this before — like you are right now — and get their advice. And don't be afraid to say when you don't know something or when you need help. Because usually people are willing to help.

Chapter 7

Our last two ideas for Parr.

AN AWARDS CEREMONY

We want to put on an awards ceremony for the people who have done really brave and good stuff in Parr. For people who do what they have to do but don't normally get noticed. This is a chance to notice those things. Anyone can nominate people and we'll make the final decisions.

The ceremony will happen in the evening near the trees on The Duckeries. We'll invite all our teachers and our families and St Helens Council as well as people from the NHS and everyone at Madison Court Care Home. We'll host the ceremony ourselves and The K's will play live music. A firework will go off every time we announce a new award.

There will be awards for Freddie's nan and Dom & Joanne from Wildcard Boxing. For Kaitlin's little sister for battling arthritis. For Stephen for being so smart and Leyla for being a preppy diva. Ervis the fish and chip man will get an award for making 1,000 fish and chip meals.

There'll be an award for the oldest person in Parr and the youngest person in Parr and the person with the tiniest pet. There'll be an award for most time spent in the mines and Parr's best care home. The dog that lives the longest. The fastest

person. The kindest person. The best dancer and the most distracting pigeon. Posters of all the winners holding their awards will be put up around St Helens and in the newspaper.

At the end of the ceremony we'll play a nice song and put the lyrics up on the screen so everyone can join in and we'll release lanterns for everyone who has passed.





A YEAR OF CARE HOME EVENTS

We want to do something nice for all the people in care homes in Parr. They have interesting stories and we don't want them to feel lonely. When you get a chance to meet the people that live there, they really appreciate it. We want to hang out with them and listen to each other.

We will do a special event for every season in all the care homes of Parr.

In December we'll make a Winter Wonderland with a snow slide and snowball fights with foam snowballs. We'll decorate the care homes and the Broad Oak choir will sing Christmas songs and everyone will have mince pies and hot chocolate with marshmallows. There will be ice sculptures and fruity kebab sticks and our teachers will dress up as Santa and his reindeers. We'll all wear wintery coats.

On first day of Spring we'll plant seeds together and have a competition to see who can grow the tallest sunflower and other plants. Once it's done we'll plant them out in the soil. After that we'll bring lots of different birds into the care homes and then have an Easter egg hunt.

In the Summer we could build a big pool in the care home car park. We'll have a summer picnic and a slip and slide. We'll decorate the care home with flowers and a sandy beach and take them for a walk with a sandcastle-building challenge at the end. We'll all eat fruit and vegan sausage rolls and drink Dr Pepper and then maybe use the sand to do some glass blowing.

For Autumn we'll build a Haunted House and a spooky escape room. We'll dress up in costumes and hide in all the rooms so that the residents can go around trick-or-treating and we'll have sweets to give them. After that we'll make our own fast-food service which the residents can drive through in their wheelchairs, with monster burgers and chicken nuggets from the All-American Diner.

We want it to be a year of fun and excitement, to remind them of their memories and things they haven't done for a long time.

Chapter 8

Freddie, Kaitlin, Leyla and Stephen interview Dom Hodnett and Joanne Abbott from Wildcard Amateur Boxing Club and Parr Sports and Community Centre.

Leyla: What inspired you to start the gym?

Dom: Tough one. How old are you guys?

Leyla: 9.

Dom: When I was like 10 and 11, I was a little bit naughty. I wasn't too bad, but I was a bit naughty and I was always getting into fights. And I started to box. And all of a sudden, my behaviour started to change. I loved boxing and I kept going all the way through till I was an adult. Then I stopped around about 26, 27. Then I felt my life going a little bit mad again. And then I had a little daughter and I thought to myself, 'I've got to start being a better man. How can I tell her to be good if I'm not?' So I went straight back to boxing and started to teach it. I loved teaching

it and I realised I could help people. I could help anyone.

Leyla: What's your favourite thing about your job?

Joanne: My job is split into two. I'm one of the founders of Wildcard, I helped Dom build it up and set it up and run it. I do that voluntarily, so I don't get paid to do that. But I'm also a Centre Coordinator of the Parr Sports and Community Centre. I help run the things that are involved in the centre, like renting the rooms, renting the pitches, setting up events and stuff like that. So I have two things going on in this place. Wildcard Boxing has always been my passion. I'll always have that in my heart, always. But also on the Parr Sports side of things, I like helping the community and bringing the community

together. It's rewarding, very rewarding.

Stephen: Was there someone who inspired you to start the club?

Dom: Yeah. Yeah, I think my first coach and my last coach inspired me a great deal to start the club. My first coach, he was a coach at the boxing club. I remember his name. His name was Billy Connors. He was a gentleman, a lovely man. Taught me that boxing – it's a sport, it's not a fight. It really inspired me the way that he could handle and get the best out of people. Even though it was boxing, he wasn't a violent man. And my last coach, he was rough, tough and mean. Very mean. But I loved him because he loved us, he loved all of us, no matter what. So, inspiration, John

Cisnell and William Connor, Billy Connor, they were my inspiration to do what I'm doing now. They were men who really cared. I thought, 'You know what, they've given a lot to me. Probably saved me from a bad life.' So yeah, they're my inspiration.

Stephen: What's it like working here?

Joanne: Tiring!

Dom: To be honest, I think I spend more time here than I do at home. I absolutely love it.

Joanne: It's the changes you're making to people's lives.

Kaitlyn: How did you get all the equipment?

Dom: When I very first started, I started with £400. Somebody gave me £1,200, which paid for the insurance, and a couple of months' rent. I had £400. I bought a boxing ring off

a mate. One that you put together. I've still actually got the original one. I think we got four punch bags. I got a load of gloves. I went to all the clubs I used to box at and got bits and pieces off them. That's basically how it started. I thought when I opened the doors first, I'd have 5 or 6 people. But when I opened my door, I think we opened the doors for about 30 kids, didn't we?

Joanne: It was amazing the amount of people that signed up to do it.

Kaitlin: How do you keep on top of all the bills?

Dom: Right, well, that's a tough one. So I have Joanne, I have Amanda, I have a couple of people that do a lot of the money. I get told off constantly. Not for spending money... I sometimes don't charge people when I

should. You see, I remember when I was little, my mum and dad didn't have much money. I know what it was like. And I can remember people being kind to me. I just think, my way of saying thank you to them is to be kind to somebody else.

Kaitlin: If someone wanted to buy a gum shield and they're a bit short, what would you do in that situation?

Dom: Don't worry about it, bring it back in when you've got it.

Joanne: Yeah. You don't make them feel embarrassed. Or if somebody comes and they come to the desk and say they can't pay the subs, and you know they can't pay the subs, then we're not going to show them up. We'll just say, 'It's fine, pay next time you come.' We don't make a big deal of it because at the

end of the day it's not their fault. They've come, they've made the effort to come. We're not going to turn them away. We never turn anybody away.

Freddie: If you could improve one thing about the club, what would it be and why?

Dom: I'd like it bigger. We do a lot of work with schools. We work with some kids who are very naughty, some kids who are just starting to get naughty. What I would like to do is, I'd like a bigger place where it could be more comfortable for schools to bring more pupils in, because I think boxing can help you calm and see things a lot clearer. I know it sounds bad because there's punches coming at you and everything like that, but it just helps you focus. The way I describe

it is, everything you do in life has consequences, so whatever decisions you're making now, they are going to impact you somewhere else along the line. In boxing, if you make a wrong decision when you're in there — you've not listened to your coach, leave your hands down — the consequence is straight away. It's a bit like life, but it's a million times faster. 'I didn't listen then, and I did that wrong. There was a consequence.' I think boxing, when you do it for a while, it just helps you put a bit of focus and calmness in your life.

Freddie: How would you get people to come to an event like a big party or an award ceremony?

Joanne: We've done it. We did a big presentation in the gym, it was absolutely amazing.

First of all, advertising. And then you get a plan in action. Social media, your prices of what you're charging, the things what you're doing. Then it just gets out there. And then when people come through your doors, you talk to them as well.

Freddie: What advice would you give us for the future if we wanted to make a project like this?

Dom: Hard work. Hard work is the key. Hard work beats talent. Every day of the week, hard work will beat talent. If you keep working hard at something and you've got a goal, that's how you do it. People will tell you it won't work. If you've got good friends, get them to believe in you. If they don't believe in you, it doesn't mean stop. It means keep trying, keep trying, keep

trying. And eventually, you'll get one foot in front of another. It doesn't matter how long, how many steps it has to take. You'll get there if you work hard on it. That's anything you want.

Freddie: If we put on a party, would you come?

Dom: Me? Oh, man, you don't have to ask me twice for a party. Yeah, definitely, man. Yeah, what about you?

Joanne: Yeah, yeah. Of course I would.

This is our book and
these are our ideas.
Now tell us what
you think and if
you can help us.

This book was written by the
members of Project Parr:
Alex, Andreea, Arianna, Evie,
Faye, Freddie, Jessica, Kaitlin,
Khaleel, Leyla, Lola, Lucas,
Maddox, Maggie, Olivia,
Oscar, Sofia, Sophia and
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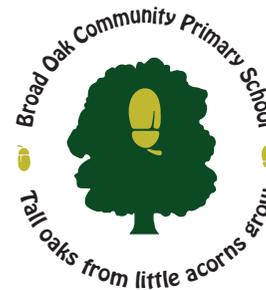
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St. Helens Corporation
Transport Bus 55 — Original
Image — Peter Steel,
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For more information visit
[heartofglass.org.uk/
projectparr](http://heartofglass.org.uk/projectparr)

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heartofglass



Author Biographies

Alex: I was born in 2016 in Whiston hospital.

Andreea: My fact is my tongue can touch my nose.

Arianna: I love drawing and I can burn your house down by tryna make eggs!

Evie: I love Dandy's World, Cookie Run Kingdom, and Laufey.

Faye: I love drawing and singing.

Freddie: A fun fact about me is I'm a really good defender in football.

Jessica: As a Potterhead I have a CRAZY imagination, for example what if you-know-who is alive because Harry's child (Albus Severus Potter) is the 8th

Horcrux. (You-know-who is Voldemort. Voldemort is a no-nose wizard.)

Kaitlin: I'm Kaitlin and I'm a baddie.

Khaleel: I love nature and all plants (I approve of the plant museum).

Leyla: I love gymnastics and dance.

Lola: I have a talent which is gymnastics.

Lucas: I'm a good Lego builder.

Maddox: I really like ice cream.

Maggie: I like making paper squishies!

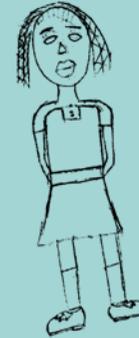
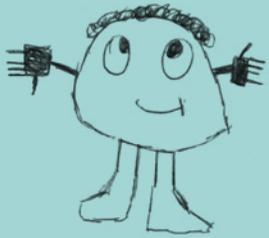
Olivia: I love sketching. I love colouring.

Oscar: Born in 2016. Addicted to tablet and does not like any sports. Great fan of JJK.

Sofia: I love Miku (I cosplayed her once), Dandy's World, Cookie Run Kingdom, and sketching. I am a HUGE big back for rice with chicken.

Sophia: I'm here. I'm alive. I'm good at football.

Stephen: I wear glasses and I'm really good at drawing.



1 page
I like making paper airplanes!





**Project
PARR**