

A Conversational Place 2016

As promised, the school is continuing its support to A Conversational Place down at Town Green Station that we completed in July last year.

After meeting with Jack and Caroline back in November, it was decided that they would complete a smaller scale project within the site with our Year 4 class. The aim of the project is for the children to create a small concrete sculpture garden that incorporates poetry written by the children.

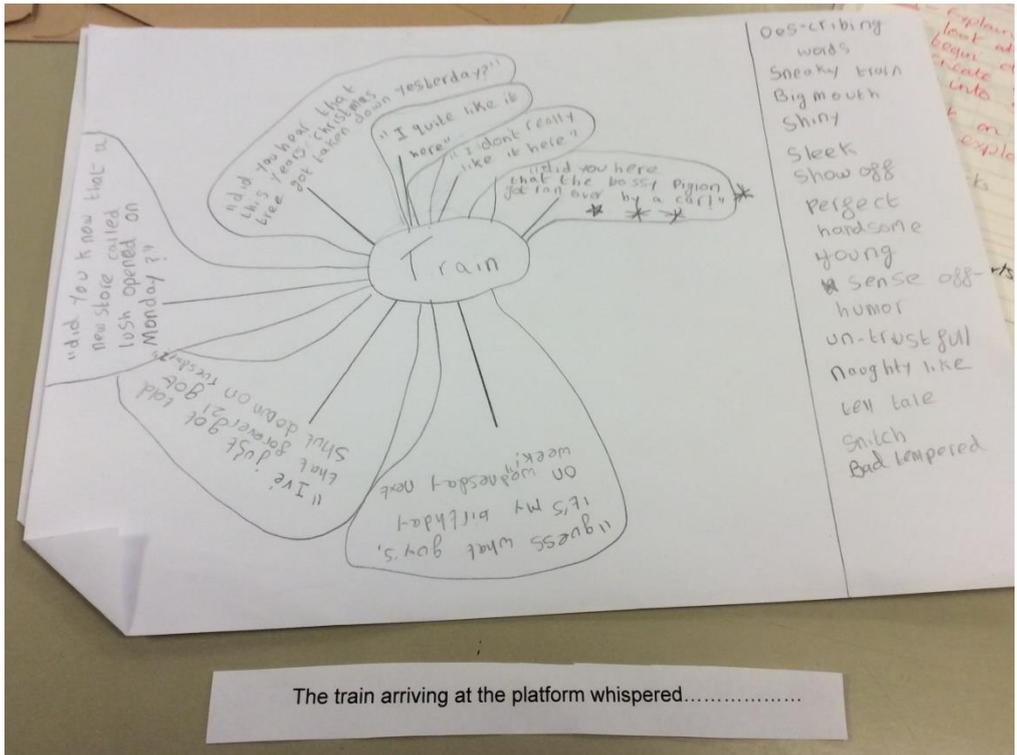
On Thursday 11th February, Caroline came in all day to complete the first of 3 workshops. During the morning, the children explored poetry (based on objects that would be found within the station) that would be sprayed onto the concrete tiles. A similar technique has been used on the Year 6 patio right at the end of the site. Caroline was really impressed with the children's work.

Squirrel
noisy trouble maker, rather good at sprinting, huge glistening eyes
chirping near
My dirty white house,
No tall legs, No clothes, No common sense for everything!

G rabb
green, waterlogged, Saggy grass ^{sways} ~~grows~~ the ground.
Swigets side to side
in the outdoors, grass lives
no bones, no arms, no skin

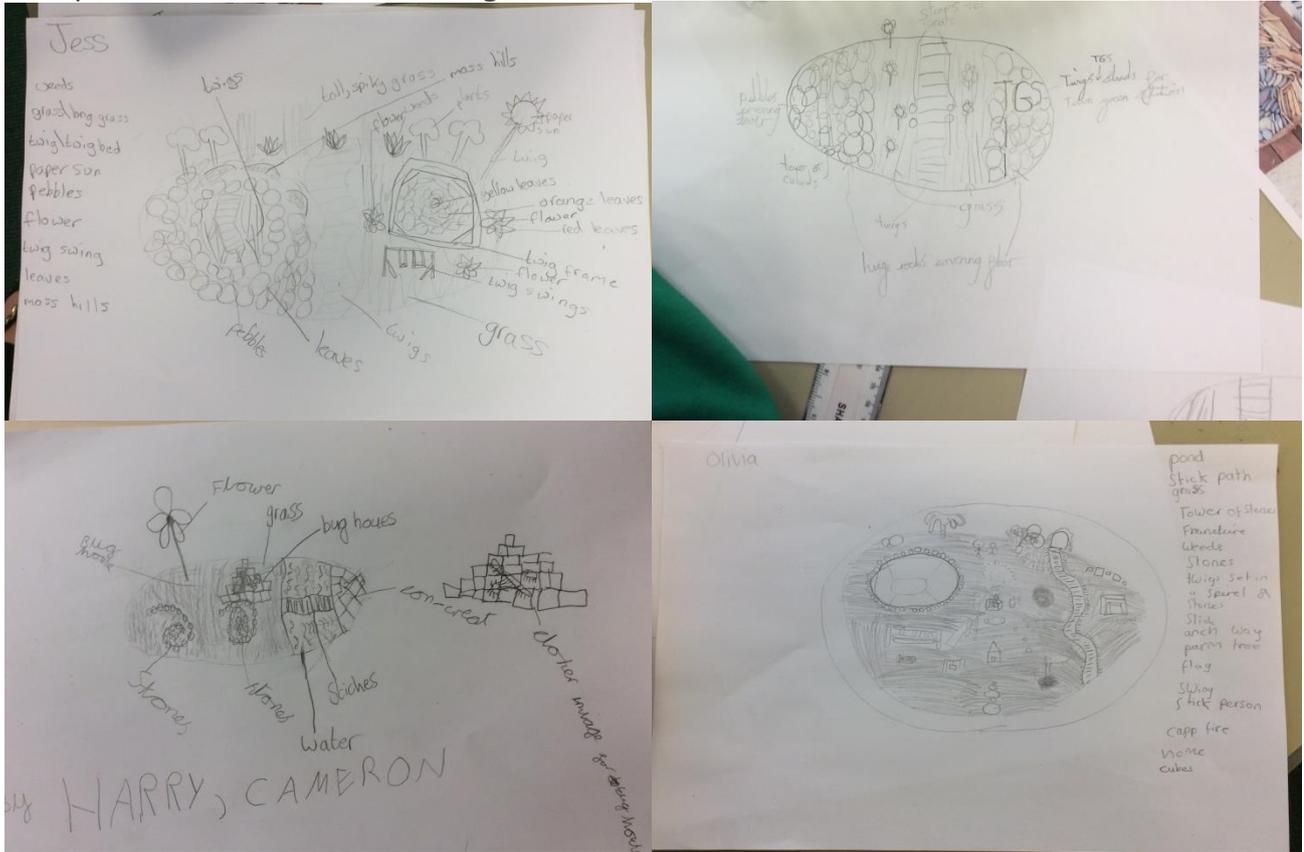
Rock
Bumpy with sharp sides and a craggy texture
lying still, on the floor, on the murky forest,
in the murky forest all day,
with no legs no arms and no face.

Following this, the children were given conversational whispers which they had to finish off. Caroline and Jack will then take a combination of all the children's work to make one poem.



The train arriving at the platform whispered.....

The sculpture garden will have a circular design created from concrete tiles. Within the centre, children will design different sculpture gardens. Children explored Andy Goldsworthy and Karl Andre for inspiration. They compared the work of the 2 artists. Andy Goldsworthy uses natural materials to create his sculptures and Karl Andre uses wood and concrete to create his minimalist sculptures. Once this was completed the children were ready to start on their own designs.



During a variety of workshops, the children have designed the sculpture gardens and completed poems that have been sprayed into the concrete tiles. After a bout of bad weather, the concrete finally set to allow the children to go down to site this week and install the new addition and as a result is now ready for the public to enjoy.



Sally Ralston, Corporate Social Responsibility Manager at Merseyrail, said "Myself and the staff at Merseyrail are very proud to have been involved in this project which has transformed an unloved area at our station at Town Green. The garden has demonstrated how dedicated the young people in our communities can be with a little support at the right time. We hope it will inspire many others to follow in their steps and play a greater part helping their communities flourish."

The school would like to thank Creative Impressions for again supporting us by making the tiles for the project and also to the Friends of Town Green Station who have volunteered down at the site since the opening.

If anyone would like to join the Friends of Town Green Station Group then please contact the school on 01695 423295.

