**What Makes a Good Community?**

Today we’re thinking about the question ‘What makes a good community’. We’ll talk about what we each think is an important and at the end I’ll mention a project that we’ll be working on together after the summer holidays.

**Questions**

1. What communities are we part of?
2. When we think about 'community' what words do we think of?

**Activity**

Imagine a new town is going to be built nearby and the people building it want to know what you think it should be like.

1. Look at the selection of photos along with their captions

2. Discuss in your group which items are needed and which aren't needed to make a good community

3. If you were developing a new town what would be the top 10 things you'd need. (1 being the most important)

4. Record your group's decision on the worksheet

**Feedback**

**--> The importance of people. Communities are more than services and buildings, or places to spend. People are the biggest asset that communities have.**

**Big Questions**

1. What changes would you like to see in the communities that you are part of?
2. Who should be the people to lead change?
3. Can young people make a difference in their communities?

I really believe that young people can make a difference and I wanted to share some examples from around the world of simple things that can bring big changes.

**Greta Thunberg** – is a 16 year old nominated for a Nobel Prize for campaigning on climate change. Greta first came into the public eye on Aug. 20, 2018, when she sat outside of the Swedish Parliament in Stockholm to protest climate change instead of going to school. She continued striking every day up until Sept. 9, which was Sweden's general election. Since then, she has continued skipping school every Friday, inspiring the [#FridaysForFuture movement](https://www.fridaysforfuture.org/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank), with other students all over the world striking in front of their local town halls to get the attention of leaders. Not only did she stand up and make her voice heard, she also inspired other young people to join her.

**Ryan Hickman** – was just 3 years old when he began recycling. He wanted to stop bottles and cans from ending up in the ocean and so he started collecting recycling from his neighbours and friends. By the age of 7, he’d raised £18,000 and started his own business.

**Mikaila Ulmer** was 4 years old when she started her lemonade stand using her grans recipe. But instead of using sugar to sweeten her drinks she used honey. By the age of 11, she was selling her lemonade in stores across America with proceeds going to help protect bees.

**Yash Gupta** was 11 years old when he set up his own charity collecting glasses that were no longer used by people donating them to children in need around the world. His organisation has collected and distributed more than £1,000,000 worth of used eyeglasses to students around the world in Mexico, Honduras, Haiti, and India.

What each of the young people I’ve mentioned have in common is they started with one small action. They spoke up when others stayed quiet. They picked up some rubbish that others left behind. They changed a recipe and didn’t keep all the profits for themselves. They took what people didn’t use anymore and thought about how others might benefit.

These examples, maybe helps us ask the question about the things we can do to be change makers in our own communities.

After summer we’ll be participating in a project together. There’s a small pot of money available to help turn your ideas into a reality. I wonder how you’d spend £200 to make a positive change to your school community?

Maybe you’d like to start up a new lunchtime club and would use the money to buy some resources.

Maybe you’d like to have a bake sale for charity and could use the money to buy ingredients.

Maybe you’d like some new books for the library.

Or maybe you have a completely different idea - it’s completely up to you. Over summer I’d like you to think about what your idea might be. You can work on it individually, or you can work on it together with others.

I’ll come back after the school holidays to hear your ideas and tell you what happens next.

### What Makes a Good Community Our Top 10

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3.

4.

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10.