Being Part of a Community

What does it feel like to belong?

We often think about belonging in the sense of being part of a community. What does community mean?

The word 'community' comes from the Latin word 'communis' which means common, public shared by many

A community means a small or large group of people who have something in common, such as religion, values, or identity. Communities often share a place – for example we can talk about the Italian community in Bedford or the Polish community in Ealing, London. Or nowadays we talk about online communities which are groups of people interested in the same things online. The word 'community' may also refer to large groups, such as national communities, international communities and virtual communities.

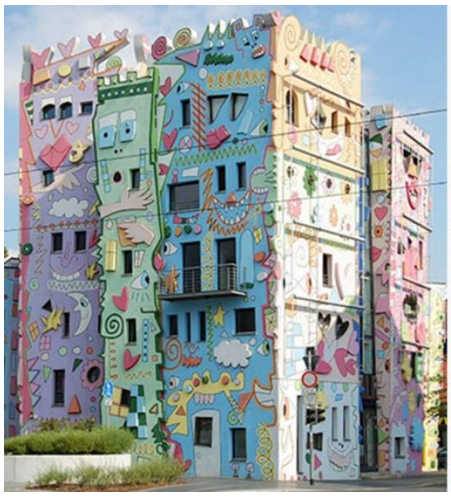
Can you think of some communities that you belong to? *(school community, football team community, neighbourhood community, village community)*

We have all been out walking through our local area a lot over the last few months.

Have a look at the picture story book – Windows. It is about taking a walk through a local community. There is also a video clip (on Seesaw) with the author discussing how the book came about. It is based on her local area and the windows she observed when out for her daily stroll.

In contrast American artist James Rizzi took the idea of community a little further within his art. He felt that the buildings had personalities and used bright colours to depict this in his

neighbourhood. I think it would certainly bring a smile to people walking through it.



I have put a video on Seesaw about his work and I hope it inspires you for today's task.

Your Task:

Use your imagination to create a picture in the style of James Rizzi.

You could use buildings from your local community environment (Carlisle Castle, Cathedral, the Civic Centre, St Michael's church or school) and redesign it using the idea that buildings are characters. It could just be a neighbourhood that you would like to belong to.

There are no limits – let your creativity flow. You could use paint, crayons, felt pens, collage, coloured paper etc

Remember his artwork leaves no white paper and is busy with vivid shapes and colours.

Don't forget - you could try adding some elements as 3d pieces to your work too!