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We have been lucky enough to work with the rap therapy team for the last year. The effects of the project have been clear and wide reaching. Every child that took part demonstrated a positive change in their behaviour or self-esteem.

Charlotte, our workshop provider was amazing. She was able to quickly form relationships with the children and create and atmosphere of trust and acceptance. Her flexibility to take on a group of children who had all lost a parent in the pandemic was really appreciated. It was this group that perhaps showed the most significant changes. The project allowed them to express feelings and worries as well as celebrating their parents. As a result of this work their focus in class as well as their social interactions significantly improved. They have also been able to continue to express themselves and share their feelings as they come to terms with their losses.

We feel that rap therapy has equipped all of the children with techniques and skills that they can use to help them deal with feelings and issues that they might encounter in the future.

Our learning mentor Sharon worked alongside Charlotte and felt she gained a good understanding of the programme. Something that would be useful to develop would be a training and support programme for school staff to enable them to take over the project making it sustainable in future years.

Many Thanks again for everything you have done for our children

Louise Partridge Deputy Head <u>Goose Green Primary School</u>

