

## Daisy's First Day by Maisie Chan



On the first day of school my mind was like a sweet jar full to the top of new, bright things to remember. I was excited but I was also worried I might lose my new cardigan or my P.E. bag. All our clothes and bags looked the same and that made me nervous.

Then there was the size of the building! It seemed like a hundred, no, maybe a thousand times bigger than our little flat. And I didn't know anyone, although Mr Thompson said we'd all make friends in no time.

During break time, I walked about the playground by myself because I was too shy to ask people if I could play with them.

An older girl came over. I thought she might play with me.

'What's your name?' she asked me.

'Daisy,' I replied.

'Daisy? That's like the name of my stuffed cow.'

'Oh,' I said. Then the girl ran off.

I saw her talking to some other girls and they started laughing. Then one of them began to moo. Then they all started making the sound and pointing at me.

I wanted to hide behind the climbing frame until playtime was over.

The second day of school was better. There was a girl in my class called Freya; she's named after a goddess. She liked drawing rainbows, just like me. We sat together on the carpet during story time and during break, we looked for each other. I was glad to have a friend now.

School didn't seem so scary. After lunch I went into the playground looking for Freya.

But then the older girl came over to me again and started making the mooing sounds. I didn't like it so I hid behind the recycling bins near the canteen.

Freya came out after eating her packed lunch and found me.

'What are you doing there?' she asked.

I told her about the older pupils calling me names and following me about.

'Come on, let's tell Mr Thompson,' she said.

'No, I can't.' I said.

'You can do it. If we tell the teacher now, then they'll stop teasing you and you can enjoy school,' Freya said. She held my hand tight.

'I don't think I can do it.' I said.

'You need to nip it in the bud,' Freya said.

'What's that mean?' I asked.

'It's what my Gran says. It means stop something before it goes too far.' Freya told me.

I thought about it some more. If I didn't want them to call me names then I was the one who had to be brave and do something about it. I grabbed Freya's hand and smiled.

'Come on, let's go to the office.' I said.

When my Mum asked me what I did at school, I said 'I listened to a good friend and I stood up for myself.'

I wasn't scared of school after that. In fact, I couldn't wait to get to school the following day.