

The Mystery of the Dumped Paint

By Leah Seeley

In the hallway at school, Mary and Rose were painting pictures on the hallway walls for the holidays. They painted a big snowman. They outlined the cardinals to paint red. They got the paint out and opened it to get started, and the bell rang to go to lunch, so they decided to put a paint cloth over the top of it so nothing would get into it. At lunch the girls were so excited and told their friends that when they got done with lunch, all they had left to do was to paint the cardinals red.

Miss Jolly says the best holiday painted picture on the wall gets a prize. Rose says that she and Mary will definitely win. Once they returned from lunch to finish up their painting, they saw Marshal standing by the red paint dumped on the floor. Marshal tried to explain to them that it wasn't him, but they went and told Miss Jolly anyway. Miss Jolly is their history teacher. Miss Jolly is the teacher that let them have extra time to paint the picture on the hallway walls. She called the principal, Miss Smith, to come and talk to Marshal.

Miss Smith and Marshal went to where the paint was dumped to look for clues to who may have dumped it. Marshal told Miss Smith that it wasn't him. He only was standing by the paint to figure out how to clean it up, and if there was enough to paint the birds red. As they kept looking around the area, they noticed little paw prints leaving the paint and heading towards the ag room.

Miss Smith spoke to Mary and Rose to let them know that they needed to apologize to Marshal because the small paw prints led to the Cotton tail's rabbit cage where he was munching on his lettuce in the ag room. Marshal didn't dump the paint after all. Mary was the last one that had the rabbit out that morning in homeroom, and she forgot to close his cage. Mary is kind of the one at fault for not being responsible enough to care for Cotton tail. Mary and Rose apologized to Marshal, and they all cleaned up the paint together. There was enough paint to paint the cardinals.

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