



Rights Respecting Schools Spring Term Newsletter



In 1989 the United Nations “Convention on the Rights of the Child” was introduced by governments across the world. The Unicef UK **Rights Respecting Schools (RRS)** award is intended to support schools in putting children’s rights at the heart of the school’s beliefs and practices, helping children to understand their rights as well as their responsibilities towards each other.

There are 54 Articles in the UN Convention, covering a wide range of rights. These include *Article 12* (respect for the views of every child), *Article 16* (right to privacy), *Article 21* (adoption), *Article 24* (health and health services) and *Article 25* (review of treatment in care).

The RRS award is split into three parts: Recognition of Commitment, Level 1 & Level 2. Bewley have completed the Recognition of Commitment stage and are scheduled for the Level 1 assessment on Friday February 24th 2017.

Mascot

We held a mascot competition to design a Rights Respecting Schools Mascot. Mr Porritt and Mrs Tattersdill chose the winning mascot in conjunction with the school council. The winning design was by Layla Robinson from 5T. The mascot is shown at the top of this newsletter.

Year 3 – Focus Activity

In October a graffiti artist called Dan came into Y3 to make a school logo with spray paint. The logo was made using 4 large MDF boards and 3E and 3C all made a stencil with their handprints.



Article 3 (Interests of the child), Article 15 (freedom of association), Article 31 (leisure, play and culture)

Fundraising

This year we have had four fundraising events to raise money for good causes: Wear it Pink day for Breast Cancer Care UK (£437.59), Unicef Day for Change (£422.70), Sport Relief (£395.91), Children in Need (£409.59) and the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (£273).

Activities

The steering group are currently developing a water bottle policy (*Article 24 Health and health services*). Suggestions Boxes have also been placed in each classroom and children encouraged to post their ideas. Classes have also created their own Class Charters. (*Article 12 respect for the views of the child & Article 13 freedom of expression*)

Alex Cunningham MP Stockton North



Year 6 – Focus Activity

Y6 recently wrote letters to the Stockton MP Alex Cunningham about Syrian crisis. This links to *Article 9* (which states that children must not be separated from their parents unless it can cause them harm), *Article 22* (if a child is seeking refuge or has refugee status, governments must provide them with appropriate protection and assistance) and *Article 38* (war and armed conflicts). Alex Cunningham wrote back to us, stating that he would do what he can and would talk to the government.

Assemblies

Reverend Radley recently came to our school and talked to us about Christmas. The Christingle service included an orange to represent the world, with red ribbon and a candle.

The NSPCC also visited to highlight what we should do if we had any worries and who we could talk to, in or out of school.

Our most recent assembly was with Rev. Radley, talking about families. All children have a right to a name, a home and a family (*Article 7 birth registration, name, nationality and care & Article 9 separation from parents*).

Our Steering Group

The RRS steering group is made up of the following children, staff and members of the community:

Sam Bussey (4TA)
Eilidh Craft (2P)
Connor Dixon (6JO)
Leo Francis (5TU)
Isla Franklin (2M)
Freddie Gurney (5T)
Jake Henderson (3C)
Richie Mason Pooley (6JE)
Mia Rainsley (3C)
Toby Rainsley (2P)
Georgia Redfern (5TU)
Maisie Redfern (6JE)
Eben Robinson (4C)
Layla Robinson (5T)
George Salmon (3E)
Amber Sanchez-Coull (6JO)
Henry Smith (2M)
Fern Swainson (3E)
Lucy Wilkinson (4C)
Olivia White (4TA)

Mr Porritt
Mrs Tattersdill
Mrs Beall
Miss Dickman
Mrs Hepple
Mrs Patterson
Mrs Robertson
Reverend Radley



Next steps

- Assembly with Rev. Radley, February 24th (*Article 24 health*)
- RRS Award Level 1 assessment scheduled Friday February 24th
- Visit to the Food Bank
- Parent Activity Afternoon

Newsletter compiled by Eilidh Craft, Maisie Redfern, Eben Robinson & Amber Sanchez-Coull