Newsletter - November 2018











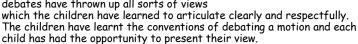
Dear Parents,

We have been wowed by the levels of engagement shown by the children in our whole school learning experience this week, 'Choose Respect'. From our HOOK assembly on Monday when Mrs Williams launched the Big Questions, through to the END GOAL when the children came back together to present their views, we have been incredibly impressed by the children's ability to reflect on their views and those of others. The big questions have included:

-What is bullying?

-Does everybody deserve to be respected? -Bullies—should they be punished or helped?

Our teaching teams have modelled debating effectively, using our WAGOLL approach (What A Good One Looks Like!) which you may have seen examples of in the children's learning journals. Our discussions and debates have thrown up all sorts of views





Friday morning, the children's learning culminated with two debates taking place. One for the older children at the debating chambers at County Hall in Chichester and for the younger children in the school hall. Parents were given a warm welcome to attend the debates and it was lovely to have parents present at both debates. The children's engagement in these debates was incredible and we have tried to capture some of the children's views in a collection of quotes:

'I think bullies need to be handled firmly to encourage them to stop.' 'In my opinion, you should punish a bully so that they learn. 'I am sure that being positive with a bully would help them to grow in their own confidence and they would stop being unkind.

'If we don't punish bullies then they will not realise it is wrong and they will just carry on.

'Bullies should be helped because if we don't help them, they might never treat people right.

'If I were prime minister, I would help all bullies.'

If you model good behaviour, children will learn.

'Bullies, should be helped—they need to be happy in order to be good.' 'As far as I am concerned, some bullies do not deserve respect 'I am sure that if we listen to a bully, it will help them to talk through what their problems are.'

As you can see, within the learning community we have a range of views, all of which are valuable and valued by us. Hearing the children's views has been incredibly interesting and it has been super to hear from the children on an issue which is clearly important to them. The quality of debate and the respect with which the children listened to one another's views was lovely to see.

To finish the learning experience, we held a vote. The children in year groups 1, 2 and 3 answered the question: Should bullies be punished or helped? They had three possible votes:

Punished - 19% Helped - 29% Both - 52%

The older children debated the motion: 'All bullies should be punished' and therefore they had two possible options:

Agree- 31% Disagree- 45%

24% of children abstained from voting. During the afternoon of the debate, children in Year 6 reviewed our anti-bullying policy and one of their observations on doing so was that they were able to identify ways in which we had committed to giving bullies consequences which were not balanced with ways in which we committed to giving bullies help.

We aim for the learning that the children have engaged in this week to have real impact in our school community. Next we plan to revisit our anti-bullying policy in school and to use the children's ideas to produce a re-draft of the document. The audience of the policy will be children themselves and, as a result, it will be worded and presented in such a way. The draft policy will be available for view in the new year when it will be presented to our Thinking Circles for the children to reflect on, edit and contribute their ideas for review. In the meantime, if you have any reflections on the children's learning this week we would be delighted to hear from you.





During the week, our Meerkat class also had the privilege of working alongside Theatre Inc to produce a piece of drama and dance communicating their views of bullying. Theatre Inc. is an award winning, specialised training company that supports young performers living with disability to create theatre that defies expectation. We are so lucky to have the opportunity to work with this group and have benefited from their input on a number of occasions, including our performance for Dance House which you may have been lucky enough to see at the school and church fete in the summer. On Friday afternoon, Meerkats performed to the rest of the school and we

were pleased that one of our governors was able to see the performance as part of a monitoring visit: 'I saw every one of our school philosophy words (courage, determination, positivity, collaboration and reflection) in Meaning to the way they were truly role models and it in Meerkats today, they were truly role models and it was just fantastic!





It was WONDERFUL to see so many of our families at Fishbourne church on Remembrance Sunday. The children took part with confidence and represented our school beautifully. The church was packed and bursting at the seams - it was particularly special to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I in this way. A big thank you to Moira and the team at the church who made us feel so welcome.



The Neon Disco took place at school on Friday evening, organised by FOFS for our children in school to enjoy. The children loved the event and danced their hearts out. A huge number of volunteers helped and a brilliant time was enjoyed by all. Our thanks go to FOFS who work their socks off to organise so many super events for our children throughout the year Look out for

children throughout the year. Look out for the Quiz night on the 30th November- another fun event for grown ups to enjoy together! There are lots of exciting plans for the year ahead in school to look forward to.



We are really proud of our school and the community of staff who make things happen! This weekend was no exception as staff gave up their time to transform the SEN Room into 'The Aquarium' which will provide a calm, quiet space in school for small group work. A huge thank you to Mrs Buchan and Mrs Oldfield for the morning

they spent painting. Thanks too to Mr Stemp.



Meanwhile a team from the University of Chichester have volunteered to help give our rather weary prayer garden a tidy up. They are working alongside our Worship Team, listening to their ideas about ways in which we can make this a Reflective Garden and the project is well underway. We look forward to it being finished when we will invite you to come and have a look!

The rest of half term promises to be a busy one. The nativity rehearsals are well underway. There has been mention of glitter and Christmas jumpers. We love this time of year in school and enjoy sharing in the children's joy of Christmas preparations. There are lots of ways to get involved in helping spread some of this magic in school in the coming weeks, so do look out for messages coming home and join in the fun if you can!

With all our thanks for your continued support. Do remember our door is always firmly open and we welcome your feedback.

Kindest regards, Naomi Day



Dates for 2018

30th Nov: Quiz night (FOFS)
7th December: Children's Christmas Shopping Day (FOFS)
Wed 12th - 9.15am—Nativity Play (Year groups 1 and 2)
Thu 13th Dec - 2pm—Nativity play (Year groups 1 and 2)
Tue 18th Dec: Christmas Carol Service at church (children only)
Wed 19th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day non-uniform
and Carols around the tree from 2.30pm
End of term
Thu 3rd January - Start of term

INSET Days for 2018/2019

Friday 15th February and Friday 24th May

REMINDERS:

We don't like to moan, but there are a couple of things you could do as families which would make a big difference to our school community:

BOOTS and TRAINERS: There are an increasing number of children wearing boots and trainers to school instead of school shoes. At the beginning of the academic year, we advised all families as they purchased winter shoes that boots are not part of our school uniform policy. Please do not send your children to school wearing boots or trainers. Thank you!





CARS: We have received more telephone calls from our neighbours in the community making us aware that an increasing number of families are starting to park in the residential streets around the

school. Please remember that we are extremely fortunate to have the support of the Roman Palace for parking, as well as our walking bus which is so kindly run by Mrs Huxtable. Please be respectful of our neighbours, and demonstrate to your own children the values we are expecting them to show in school. Please also remember not to use the coach car park area of the Roman Palace. There were 3 occasions last week where the Roman Palace telephoned the school to ask for the removal of cars parked in this area after 9.15am due to coaches arriving to visit the palace. Many thanks.











