

Brunswick Park Primary School

e-Newsletter no. 38



Friday 16 November 2018

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www.brunswickparkprimary.co.uk

This month's Focus Value is *Courtesy*

Dear Parents and Carers

It was a pleasure to welcome so many parents and carers to the school at Parents' Evening last week, and see so many children showing off their work with such enthusiasm. Leah Phillips, teacher of Reception Scarlet Class, and Christina Huszar, teacher of Class 6A, will complete their Parents' Evenings on **Tuesday 27 November**. A letter will be sent next week to those parents and carers this affects.

Our Anti-Bullying Week work culminated today in the children attending live performances of the play 'The Power of One', which reinforces the school's anti-bullying strategies. Below in this Newsletter I have included excellent advice from the charity Kidscape about these strategies which you can discuss with your children, including the importance of acting calmly and assertively. These strategies tie into the Department for Education document published this week entitled Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools, which highlights the importance in children's lives of structure, routine, calm and dignity in the promotion of good behaviour and mental health.

Every child's daily routine should include reading. Many of Brunswick's children attain well in reading at the end of Key Stage 2, but the greatest barrier to higher attainment is what is being referred to at the moment as 'The Vocabulary Gap'; children simply do not know what more tricky or uncommon words mean because they have not come across them before. The only way to close this gap is to broaden vocabulary by reading challenging texts and books regularly. That is where Ms Huszar's Book Bonanza comes in; read all about it on the next page and do your best to join in to help and to support your child's learning.

With best wishes for a peaceful and enjoyable weekend,

Susannah Bellingham

Head Teacher

Upcoming Dates

Don't forget!
All dates and
News are on
the school's
website -
address at the
top of this
page.

23 November:

Primary Admissions Meeting
for Parents and Carers

12 December:

Winter Production Key Stage 1

13 December:

Winter Production Key Stage 1

21 December:

Last day of Term -
children finish at 2pm

**KEEP
CALM
AND
ASSERTIVE**

BOOK Bonanza!

To celebrate the arrival of many new books in the children's reading areas, pupils have been set the challenge of reading four books that challenge them in four weeks in

'The Book Bonanza at Brunswick'

Everyone who completes the challenge will receive a certificate and sticker and many new books will be up for grabs as prizes when winners are drawn from a hat at the end of the term.

Daily reading is proven to increase children's vocabulary, ability to focus and their success both academically and socially.

Help your child meet the challenge by ensuring that they are completing their daily reading homework. Parents of children in Reception to Year 2 can complete their reading records when you have heard your children read while those with children in Years 3 to 6 can check that your children have completed one of the reading activities stuck in the back of their records.

The children are incredibly excited: let's all help them to achieve!



Taking a stand against Bullying

Throughout this week we have focused on forming and maintaining positive relationships through mutual respect, courtesy and tolerance and on the importance of recognising and standing up to bullying in all its forms, including online, or 'cyber' bullying.

We began on 9 November by wearing blue for the day (Just be you and wear blue!) to raise money for the charity Bullying UK, wore odd socks to celebrate our differences on 12 November and finished today with live performances of the theatre production The Power of One. In it, actors dramatise three scenarios then analyse them with the children.

They teach children that bullying will not stop unless it is challenged - by anyone who sees it - and that intervention by an adult is required. The solution to each scenario is to report bullying.



Wear Blue for Bullying UK
To take a stand against bullying



Wear Blue at your school or workplace on 9 November 2018 and help raise money for Bullying UK #wearblueday
www.bullying.co.uk
Helpline 0808 800 2222*



We raised
£159.36
Thank you!

This
ANTI-BULLYING WEEK
we

choose
respect

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

MONDAY 12TH - FRIDAY 16TH
NOVEMBER 2018



MONDAY 12TH NOV

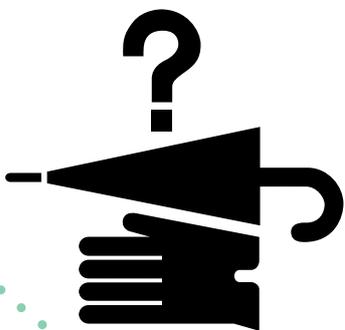
THURSDAY 15TH NOV

Odd Socks Day

STOP SPEAK SUPPORT

CYBERBULLYING DAY

The Power of One



All unclaimed lost property will be placed under the shelter on the Key Stage 2 playground on Wednesday 21 November at 3.30pm. Please take some time to have a look through it, and ensure all children's clothing is named so it can be returned easily.

Building Resilience

To support our anti-bullying work we are reminding the children through assembly and PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education) lessons that if something happens to them on the playground that they do not like, first they need to tell the person,

"Stop it! I don't like it."

If the behaviour they do not like continues, the children then must tell an adult who will help them.

Children need to feel empowered to develop the courage and resilience to speak up assertively and know they have the power to change a situation themselves. They learn at school that reacting aggressively never solves a problem, and that aggressive behaviour is never tolerated.

You may find this poster helpful:

How To Be Assertive

**If someone is
doing
something
you don't like,
you can:**



- 1. Look at the person.**
- 2. Put your hand up like a stop sign.**
- 3. Use a strong voice to say
"STOP. I don't like it that."**
- 4. Describe what you don't like.**
- 5. If the person does not stop, ask
for help.**

Kidscape's advice for young people about being

assertive;

How to respond to bullies and our tips for being assertive

When you are being bullied, it's really hard not to show that you are upset or angry; we are human after all. But by not giving the bully the reaction they want, you will be able to take back the control and stop the bullying cycle in its tracks. How can this be done? **By learning to be assertive!**

What does it mean to be assertive?

Being assertive is about being at ease and feeling confident around others without being forceful or aggressive. Although this does come easier to some, nobody is born assertive - it is something that is learned. First of all, look at the different styles of communication. Generally they can be divided into three main categories:

Being passive is to behave as if other people's rights matter more than yours;

Being aggressive is to behave as if your rights matter more than other people's;

Being assertive is to respect yourself and others equally.

People usually behave in a mixture of the ways described above. However, those who are mostly aggressive are likely to bully others, and those who are mostly passive are often likely to be a target of bullying.

Speaking assertively

The following methods can be used to respond to bullies when they say something offensive. Remember, the key is to be assertive, which means not getting aggressive or insulting back.

Start saying no. Before you can try out any of the methods below, you must learn how to feel comfortable saying no. For a tiny word, it can feel very hard to say, but it's completely within your right to use it. Most importantly, say 'no' as if you mean it. Say it forcefully, clearly and loud enough to be heard. To be most effective, it must be backed up with the assertive body language explained in the next section.

When someone asks you to do something, keep saying no until the bully gets the message. This method is based on repetition, and is something Kidscape refers to as the 'broken record' technique.

When someone says an insulting comment, no matter how hard it is, try not to let the comment upset or anger you. Pretend you are surrounded by a protective bubble or fog that swallows up the words before they can touch you. If the comment is based on truth, respond "that's right". If the comment is false, respond "it's possible" or "that's your opinion". We like to call this 'fogging'.

Remember to stay safe! These techniques should only be used when you feel safe. If you feel under threat, always YELL to attract attention, RUN away from danger and TELL an adult immediately. If you are being threatened for a possession, hand it over. No object, no matter how new or expensive, is more important than your safety.

Using body language

Being assertive isn't just about how you respond to others verbally, but is also apparent in your body language - i.e. the way you hold yourself physically. Bullies pick on people who they think won't stand up for themselves, and will often target those who look nervous. Here are a few simple things you can do to 'stand tall' and appear confident (even if you don't feel it!).

Keep your back straight;

Hold your head high;

Walk with purpose;

Take a deep breath and relax your shoulders;

Unfold your arms and try not to fidget;

Hold eye contact.

Using an assertive voice

When you use a verbal response with a bully, it's important to use an assertive voice, one that is strong, calm and sounds confident. Take a deep breath before speaking and don't let the bully rush you.

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/advice/advice-for-young-people/dealing-with-bullying/how-to-respond-to-bullies/>

Remembrance - The Poppy Appeal



Thank you

The children have been extremely enthusiastic purchasers and wearers of poppies, key rings and snap bracelets to support the work of the British Legion, and we now wait until our local British Legion volunteer tells us how much we raised to support those affected by war and conflict.

In assembly the children learned about Mrs Bellingham's Grandpa, Fred Cook, who was born in 1897 (during the reign of Queen Victoria!) and volunteered as a private soldier when he was just 17 years old to fight in the First World War.

He spent time defending the Suez Canal before being transferred to France to fight in the Battle of the Somme. Though during the battle he was shot 3 times, he was one of only 47 to survive of his Battalion of 800 soldiers, and he went on to live until he was 99 years and 9 months old.

Throughout his very long life he maintained that war is never a solution and that life is precious, which we must never forget.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

POPPY APPEAL

Year 2 Trip to Westminster



We were very lucky to be allowed inside the Houses of Parliament. The children went through security checks and loved what they saw inside; so much history! Then we walked past Downing Street, watched the changing of the guard and saw people laying wreaths in respect of our soldiers. The children behaved impeccably and security guards outside the Houses of Parliament were so impressed with the children that they asked which school we belonged to.

Mrs Roychoudhury



Sharing Assemblies

Year 5 and Year 1 have held very successful Sharing Assemblies over the last fortnight. They are great opportunities for you to come into school and see your children explain what they have been learning.

For example, Year 1 children told their parents and carers about seasonal changes, how to use a number line, how to segment and blend in phonics and how to sing the doubling numbers song.

Thank you to all those parents and carers who came along to support their children, and to the children and teachers for putting on such slick performances.



100%

There is a proven link between good school attendance and good progress.

Denise has been doing some calculations, and has worked out that 357 of our 418 pupils have 100% attendance so far this year. Well done!

CONGRATULATIONS

Reminders to all Parents and Carers

Correct School Uniform:

Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct uniform. All children must wear black shoes, black or grey school trousers or skirts and socks and Hijabs should be plain white, black or grey. Grey or black shorts or purple checked summer dresses can be worn in warm weather.

Punctuality:

Please ensure your child arrives to school on time every day; arriving late is embarrassing and missed learning time affects achievement and stops your child from reaching his or her potential.

Parking:

Please park carefully when dropping off and collecting your children. Parking carelessly puts children at risk. Wardens patrol for the children's safety and welfare.

Safeguarding Information

The designated team for Safeguarding at Brunswick Park Primary is
Susannah Bellingham
Fiona O'Malley and
Andrea Inniss-Griffith.

If you have any concerns about any child, please contact us. We are committed to Safeguarding all children and members of our school community and take all concerns seriously.

For your information, key school policies are available on request from the School Office and can be downloaded from the school Website under the 'Our School' tab.

Please check the website for further details about what children have been doing and learning in school.

Missed a newsletter? All newsletters are available for download from the School Website under the 'News' tab.

<http://www.brunswickparkprimary.co.uk>

Attendance Update

Congratulations to Class 5B with over 99% and 2B with 100%

Well done!

Whole School Attendance for W/B 29.10.18: 96.4%

Whole School Attendance for W/B 05.11.18: **97.2%**



Whole School Attendance Target = 97%

Right to Reply:

16/11/18: Please email the address below to give us constructive suggestions or comments, including your name and your child's class.

Thank you.

office@brunswickpark.southwark.sch.uk