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Rights Respecting School Award – February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to share with you some great news that we received this week. We have been awarded the Rights Respecting Silver Award and we are so proud to receive this. The Award recognises achievement in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of a school's planning, policies and practice. A Rights Respecting School is a community where children's rights are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted.

Miss Hartley, our PSHE subject lead, has worked very hard putting the submission together to reflect all the great work in our school and wider community. She has done this through her work with the School Council, gathering evidence for her quality submission and through links with our PSHE governor.

Miss Hartley put together a large portfolio on behalf of our school and below are 3 of the many slides that were submitted. They allow you to see the depth of information needed and the team work to achieve this award. Look out for the banner we will receive shortly from Unicef that will be displayed in our school grounds.

UNICEF is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights. The Rights Respecting Schools Award is granted to schools that show commitment to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children and young people to respect the rights of others in school. Silver is given to schools that make excellent progress towards embedding the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child into its ethos and curriculum. There are over 1,300 schools across England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales that have achieved Silver and over 600 schools that have been awarded Gold, the next step up and highest accolade granted by UNICEF.

The [UNICEF UK Rights Respecting Schools](https://www.unicef.org/uk/rights-respecting-schools) initiative is aimed at schools across the UK, including those in an early years setting. Currently, it works with nearly 5,000 primary schools, secondary schools, schools for children and young people with special educational needs and pupil referral units across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Schools have reported a positive impact on pupil behaviour, relationships and well-being by enhancing pupils' self-esteem, leading to less truancy and bullying, better learning and improved academic standards.

Here are some of the slides from the amazing submission Miss Hartley collated, working together with our school community:

PSHE

PSHE and rights respecting go hand in hand. That is why our PSHE folders link to rights in every single lesson. It is clearly documented which rights were discussed in each session and evidence is given of what we have discussed.

Rights

Children have the right to an opinion (Article 12 CRC)

Learning Objectives

- I know what rights are.
- I know UNICEF and what it does for rights.
- I will choose the rights most important to me.

Year 1 voted and decided which rights are important to them and should be part of our class charter. They choose:

- Article 2: To be treated fairly
- Article 13: To find out things and share with others
- Article 9: To choose friends and set up groups
- Article 14: To be protected from harm
- Article 31: To rest and play

We've Got Rights! Wants and Needs

Learning Objectives

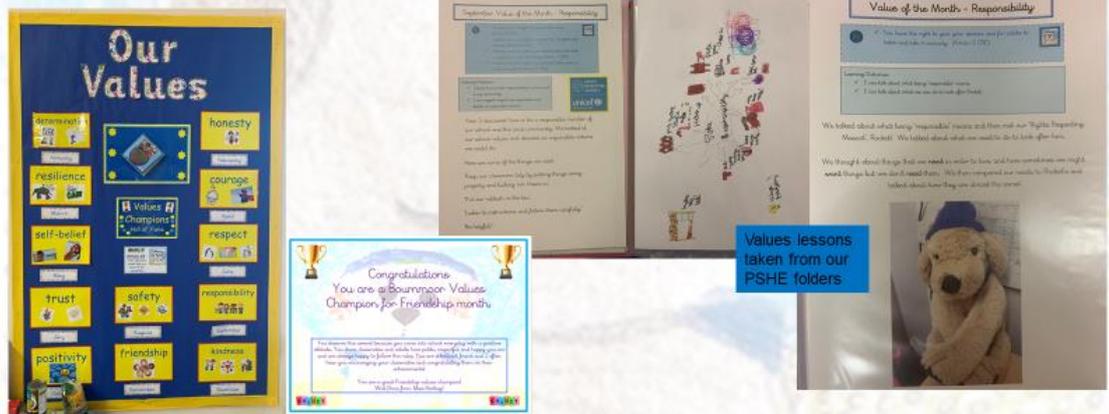
- I know what rights are
- I know what a need is
- I know what a want is

As we are a rights respecting school, we are familiar with our rights. We used our Unicef cards to discuss what a right was and what a need was, we had a big debate about each one. We disagreed that it is not something you can choose without and it is not something you would like but can live without. After going through the cards, we split them up on a grid for further discussion. We are very good and really work hard!

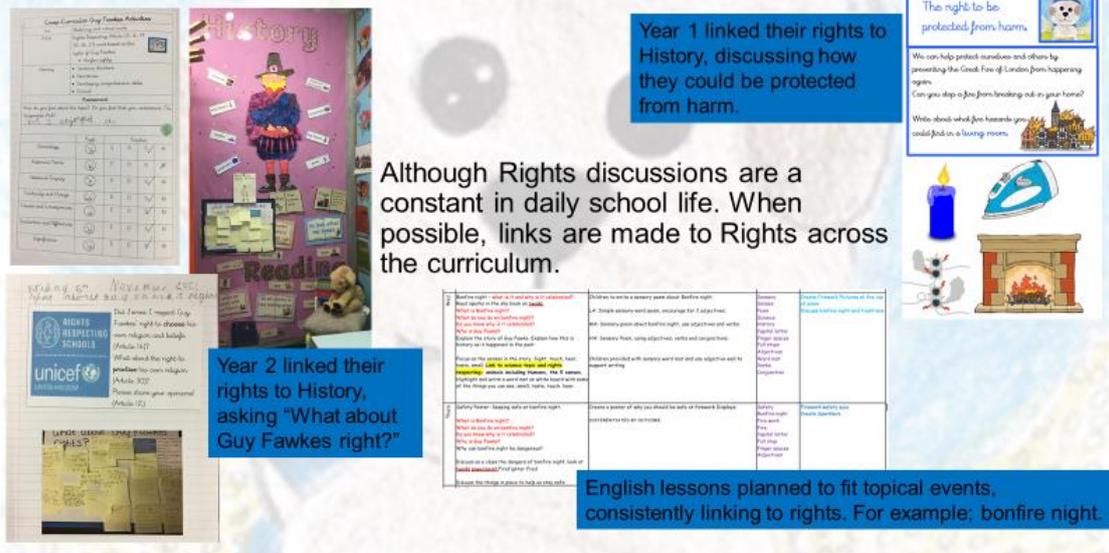
Soccer Aid

Our Value of The Month

We choose a value each month that represents our Rights, we refer to this throughout the month, complete a PSHE lesson on the topic and also issue a 'Values Champion' in our achievement assemblies.



Cross-Curricular Links



Here are some of the quotes from our feedback from the Rights Respecting Assessor:

“Children interviewed from Reception to Y6 could name a range of rights. They knew that rights were for all children, everywhere, from birth, and that adults such as parents and teachers are responsible for ensuring children have access to their rights. Rocket, the rights respecting mascot, helps younger children to become familiar with their basic rights. One child explained, “You need to know your rights because without them, you’d be unsafe.”

“Children learn about rights in whole school assemblies, PSHE and in discussions that relate to their daily lives and topical events such as safety in the home and climate change. Evidence showed that PSHE work is clearly documented in class folders with learning objectives linked to rights. Rights are also linked to the Value of the Month through such themes as kindness, anti-bullying and safety.”

Well done to everyone and especially ‘thank you’ to Miss Hartley for all your hard work!

L A Snowdon

Mrs Laura Snowdon (Headteacher)