

ST. CATHERINE'S

RRS NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2015

ISSUE 2

OUR JOURNEY CONTINUES!

As you know St Catherine's has successfully achieved the UNICEF UK Recognition of Commitment (ROC) for our Rights Respecting School work. This means we can now use the following logo on our letterheads and newsletters.



During the course of this coming half term the children will be working with their new teachers and staff to create their new class charter. This will be displayed prominently in the classrooms.

The steering group will be visiting Brettenham Primary School on Wednesday 30th September to meet the RRS ambassadors and talk about their journey to Level 2.

We will also take the steering group to 'The Houses of Parliament' on Friday 6th November. The specific focus of this session is how Parliament makes laws. The children come up with ideas for bills to present to Parliament and simulate the process of passing one of these

bills into law through active role play. The group participates in debates and votes along the way, and learns about the role of the Commons, the Lords and the monarch in making a law. This should be a wonderful, worthwhile experience! We hope to cascade this experience back at school. We are also keen to participate in debating sessions with nearby primary schools. These are all positive ways to enable our children to grow in confidence in both speaking and listening.

The children will also revisit our Golden Rules to ensure we are all sure about the reason we follow these and the importance of working together as a team. Each year group from year 1-6 will also be electing their School Council representatives.



Articles of CRC:

Here are some of the articles we will be concentrating on during the autumn term.

Article 3: Every child must be a top priority in all things that affect children.

Article 12: Every child has the right to say what they think in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.

Article 13: Every child must be free to say what they think and to seek and receive information of any kind as long as it is within the law.

Article 28: Every child has the right to an education. Discipline in schools must respect children's human dignity. Wealthy countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 29: Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Article 31: Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.



What next?

We continue to implement our Action Plan so that the CRC permeates all areas of school life. We aim to finalise the 'Hall Charter', 'Dining Hall Charter, 'Playground Charter' and a 'Schools Charter'. We will welcome the support of the Parent Partnership in the drawing up of a 'Parents Charters'.

The RRSA has also a great connection with the existing programme on Social and Emotional Aspect of Learning (SEAL). Please ensure that you read the autumn newsletter on the website.

A particular strength of the RRSA is that it can be used as a unifying structure for a range of initiatives: Religious Education, PSHE, Citizenship, School Council, Healthy Schools and Philosophy for Children. This is because the RRSA provides an underlying value system with all these initiatives.

Please read the weekly update in our school newsletter on our website. The RRS Newsletter will be half termly. If you have any ideas, suggestions or questions please send me an email or pop in for a chat. I welcome your involvement. Mrs Mary Ainger

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