

St. Catherine's Rights Respecting School Newsletter
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WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL
Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.

During the course of the first two weeks of the autumn term the children created their own class charter. The charter for a rights respecting classroom sets out:

- The rights (articles) selected which the children and adults consider to be the most relevant to our school.
- The actions agreed between the children and adults to ensure that these rights can be realized and enjoyed by everyone.

Each class set their charter out in a visible way for the whole school community to share. During the term we have welcomed parents, governors and external visitors who have had the opportunity to see the wide range of designs around the school from Nursery to Year 6.

Many parents commented on the class charters they saw at the Curriculum Meetings this week. A class charter is created in collaboration with the children in a class and the adults that teach them. All of our charters are linked to the United Nations Rights of the Child articles (UNCRC). Our Charters are very visual. Each class also displays the 'Article of the Month' and the 'Thought for the Month'.





World Peace Day/ Global Learning

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. This as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples. A peaceful society is one where there is justice and equality for everyone. Peace will enable a sustainable environment to take shape and a sustainable environment will help promote peace. The theme for the International Day of Peace in 2018 was “The Right to Peace “

E-Safety: Education for a Connected World

On Tuesday morning this week, we were thrilled to host so many parents at our first E-Safety .We began by discussing headline issues that had emerged from a recent nationwide survey of children’s online lives and use of technology, conducted by the London Grid for Learning (LGFL) –‘Hopes and Streams’. This really brought home the ever increasing importance of online safety for our children.



Digital Detox

We also considered promoting a healthier relationship to our devices through a whole school community ‘Digital Detox Day’. The challenge would be for all children, teachers and parents to spend an entire school day unplugged! This took place in December and was extremely successful!



Global Learning

Over the course of the term the children watched the World's Largest Lesson and found out about the Sustainable Development Goals. In the newsletter each week the school became more knowledgeable about the 17 Global Goals. The World's Largest Lesson aims to educate children and young people all over the world on the Global Goals.



Year 1 Judaism Workshops

It was lovely to welcome back Ruth Jampel. Ruth worked solely with the year 1 children. The Year 1 children were so inquisitive and very excited. 'Today Ruth visited St Catherine's and delivered a workshop to Year 1. The children learned all about Shabbat-the Jewish Sabbath and how this is linked to the story of creation. They had the opportunity to see and try on items from the Jewish religion such as a Kippah, Torah and Torah pointer. They also learned how to write the word Shabbat in Hebrew.'



Cafod Harvest Fast Day

Thank you to everyone who supported this very colourful fundraising day. The total raised was £376.80p. Thank you for your generosity. The money raised is helping communities lift themselves out of poverty. Millions of

families around the world do not have enough food and children miss out on school. The support of our school and so many more is helping to change this.



Harvest Collection for our local Community

Thank you for your contributions and generosity. The Fund-raising Captains helped Mrs Ainger and Mrs Ward to bag all these contributions and take them to 'Homeless Action In Barnet'. They were extremely grateful.

Westminster Cathedral Advent Carol Service

On Wednesday afternoon, 6V went to Westminster Cathedral for the Catholic Children's Society Advent Carol Service. What a wonderful experience for the children to experience the telling of the Nativity through narration, acting and singing. They were mesmerised throughout, particularly with the arrival of Larry the donkey and his sheep friend from Hackney City Farm! The children's behaviour throughout the service and on the journeys to and from the Cathedral was, as always, impeccable and we were so proud of all of them.

Class 6S visit St Peter's Club

Sue Allen from St Peter's invited St Catherine's to sing at their Wednesday Club. Mrs Sadler, some of our staff and the children in Class 6S had an amazing time. They entertained the members of The Wednesday Club by singing Christmas carols to them so beautifully. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were very appreciative of all the children's efforts. Once again, the children were a credit to St. Catherine's and their families.

Rights Respecting School—an email from Frances Bestley

The holiday season can be a tough time for many. From children in Yemen, who Unicef are supporting this winter to those living in places closer to home. We know 2018 has been a difficult year for many schools. Budgets continue to be cut, staff workloads are increasing and it can feel that too often schools are expected to make up the shortfall where other services are

unavailable. Against this backdrop we are amazed at the difference you are making for children in the UK. In 2018 we have seen 26 schools reaccredited at Gold, 84 schools reach Gold for the first time, 284 schools reach Silver and 483 schools reach Bronze. And we have seen 574 schools take that all - important first step and register for the Award.

We are inspired by the commitment and dedication we see from ordinary teachers delivering the very best for each and every child, empowering them with knowledge of their rights to grow into active, engaged, confident global citizens. Thank you for your hard work this year. We look forward to working with you to deliver more change for children in 2019. Best wishes, Frances Bestley - Programme Director, RRSA

Year 6 Thinking of others this Christmas!

Following their Christmas writing about a lonely old man living on the moon, the children in Year 6 created beautiful Christmas cards which have been given to the volunteer team at Barnet Hospital. These cards are going to be distributed to lonely, elderly patients over the Christmas period. The words inside the card say:

This is to let you know that you are being thought about this Christmas.

Wishing you peace and love.

*From the Year 6 children at
St. Catherine's School, Barnet*

Thank you!

This term has been a wonderful start to the academic year. The St Catherine's community has shown fantastic team work especially in this season of Advent which included a Christmas Fayre and 7 Christmas Concerts, or as our lovely nursery describes them "Christmas Shows!" We are so proud of the children's achievements this term and hope they have a good rest and return to us full of enthusiasm for learning.

Thank you to our RRS Ambassadors -children, parents and governors. We look forward to the coming term and the opportunity to visit other local primary schools. It has been a very busy half term and our aim in January is to publish our RRS leaflet and draw up a programme of events and assemblies for the spring term. We will be welcoming speakers from the NSPCC, The Passage (homeless in Westminster) and the Catholic Children's Society. Many of our children are planning fundraising events in the coming months. They are so enthusiastic. I know that you will support them, as always. Thank You! Mrs Ainger.