



**RIGHTS  
RESPECTING  
SCHOOLS**

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UNITED KINGDOM

**GOLD – RIGHTS RESPECTING**

***St. Catherine's Rights Respecting School Newsletter***

***April 2019***

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**WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD  
RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL**



**Children's rights are learned, understood  
and lived in this school.**



### **Welcome to Stephen Crabb FSSA Zambia**

The children were delighted to welcome Stephen again to St Catherine's. Stephen told the KS2 children about his work in Zambia and how the money we raise is used to send children to school. The children were very interested and asked very sensible questions.



### **School Council: FSSA Zambia Fundraising.**

As a result of Stephen's visit the children were really excited about supporting the hard work of Stephen and his colleagues in Zambia. One group organised 'Guess the name of the Teddy Bear'. Thank you to Georgia, Rose, Emma, Betsy, Evelyn and Emily for organising this event. The winner of this beautiful bear was Betsy in 3M. The amount raised was £150.00. A special 'Thank You' to Georgia who raised £60 of this amount at home washing cars!!!!

Thank you also to Leon, Jorge, Dominik and Alex in year 4 for their Book and Toys Sale in the playground on Thursday. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this event. We were overwhelmed with your generosity and contributions. They raised £130.00. We look forward to a number of fundraising events, led by the children, next term.

### **Rights Respecting School: 'Want or Need?'**

During one of our assemblies this term we thought about the difference between a 'want' and a 'need'. One of the activities we have is 'Wants and needs Cards'. There are 20 different cards with wonderful new illustrations.

The idea is for us to decide if the object on each card is a 'Want' or a 'Need'? Stephen Crabb mentioned in his presentation that it would cost £60 to send an orphan to school for a year. Think about this! We can easily spend £60 on a football shirt, a computer game, a trip out. Do we need this?

During Lent we are going to reflect on how we can serve others and not simply think about what we want.



### **Rights Respecting School: 'Global Citizens'**

We are delighted to say we have added the key words to the large map outside the hall. The words supplied were in the response to 'A Global Citizen is someone who...' Thank you so much for contributing to this. Please look out for this when you visit the school. Stop and look at the words chosen by the school community.

### **Global Learning: Letters to Theresa Villiers**

As part of the Science week the year 4 children wrote letters to Theresa Villiers about pollution in our world, especially our seas and oceans. Here is an example of the message they sent on behalf of the school community.

Dear Theresa Villiers,

I am writing to inform you that the plastic in our seas and oceans is undeniably far too much! In my class we have been learning about how plastic is invading our beloved oceans. We have to take responsibility and take action instantly. We cannot let the marine animals continue to be killed or they will become extinct. As plastic is biodegradable I feel there should be a ban on plastic food and drink packaging. We must do something now! What is your opinion on this? What is Barnet Council doing about this? (year 4)

### **Pollutants in the school environment**

The Year 4 children carried out their experiment and concluded that the areas with the highest pollutants were those found by the main road due to the heavy traffic. Many of the children predicted this.



## Global Learning

Following on from the Year 4 work on pollution in our local and global environment we have been looking into the work of 'Friends of the Earth'.

**Friends of the Earth** are part of an international community dedicated to protecting the natural world and the wellbeing of everyone in it. They are committed to-

- a peaceful and sustainable world based on societies living in harmony with nature.
- each generation enjoying an environment that's getting better; a safer climate, abundant nature, healthy air, water and food.
- growing and diverse network of people coming together to transform our environment into one which is flourishing, sustainable, and socially just.

The Year 4 children watched an extremely informative video this week about this issue. At St Catherine's we firmly believe we all play a part as a global citizen.

### Global Learning: DID YOU KNOW?

Our seas and oceans are being choked by our plastic pollution. Fragile marine ecosystems that have been stable for thousands of years are now at risk of collapse. Let's be honest - avoiding plastic completely is pretty much impossible. But more and more people are cutting down on the amount of plastic they use.

#### **Plastic is choking our oceans and killing marine life.**

As the plastic breaks down into tiny pieces it's consumed by marine animals. All this plastic pollution means **a cocktail of harmful chemicals can be passed up the food chain. Plastic is even getting into our food and water supplies.**

We need the government to introduce a plan now that:

- starts with phasing out non-essential single-use plastics now
- commits to tackling trickier plastics, like in clothes and car tyres
- maintains quality of life for people who need plastic, and doesn't cause worse environmental problems.

Year 4's display outside their classroom demonstrates the problem that our world faces today and in the years to come.

### Rights Respecting Schools

The Year 6 Ambassadors have designed a draft leaflet. The leaflet was emailed to parents before the Easter holidays asking for suggestions and comments. The leaflet, once finalised, will be given to all new parents and also on display in the front entrance.

## Rights Respecting Schools

Our new 'Article of the Month' has been introduced and is on display in all classrooms and around the school. We have also displayed out 'Theme of the Month' – **Forgiveness**

April: Article of the Month

Article 3: The best interest of the child must be a top priority in all actions concerning children.



Best interests of the child.



## Theme of the month April Forgiveness



Rights of the Child  
A3 - the right to the best decisions being made on their behalf  
A8 - the right to an identity  
A19 - the right to protection  
A40 - the right to legal help and fair treatment

Global Goals  
Goal 4 - Quality education  
Goal 3 - Good Health and Well-Being  
Goal 10 - Reduced Inequalities  
Goal 16 - Peace and Justice



## School Council

### CAFOD Fundraising. 'The Throwing Mayhem'

Thank you to KS2 to Ankith, Arpith, Guilio and Ronnie for organising this fundraising event for CAFOD. (Catholic Society for Overseas Development). This was run at lunch time and the three winners were awarded prizes. The amount raised was £65.00.

This has been such a busy school year for all the children especially in their desire to serve others in our local and global community. The children's enthusiasm to make a difference through their fundraising has resulted in money being raised for a wide range of charities and organisations – Poppy Appeal, Cafod, FSSA Zambia, Muscular Dystrophy, Macmillan Coffee, Save the Children, Homeless Action in Barnet and Catholic Children Society.

We look forward to a busy term ahead and the children have already presented their plans. Here are some of their plans – Cherry Lodge, NSPCC, RSPCA, Cancer research and FSSA Zambia .

The School Council will meet after Easter to plan the term ahead and discuss the events of the summer term. We are extremely proud of all our children.