



## October Newsletter No.20

### Class Charters

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

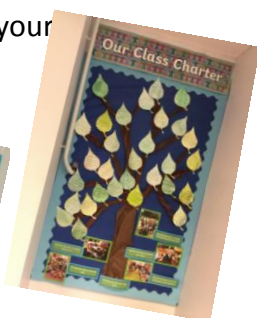
- the rights (articles) selected which the children and adults consider to be the most relevant to our school.
- the actions agreed between the children and adults to ensure that these rights can be realized and enjoyed by everyone.

Each class set their charter out in a visible way for the whole school community to share. The start of a new term presents a great opportunity to create charters within your class or school. The children have been very creative in their designs and these designs were shared with the school community via the newsletter.

A charter is a visual display that establishes an agreed set of rights-based principles upon which relationships can be based and which provide a language for shared values.

Creating charters supports our positive learning environment in the classroom, across the whole school and in the playground.

Our charters provide an opportunity to learn about specific articles and help us to continue to build shared values and relationships for creating a rights respecting ethos. When you are visiting your child's class please make sure that you look at their charter.



## **Rights Respecting Schools Ambassadors Learning Walk**

The Rights Respecting Ambassadors met to plan the coming half term. They carried out a learning walk around the whole school looking for evidence that we are a rights respecting school. This was in preparation for our visit from Martins School. We were delighted to welcome the new Rights Respecting Ambassadors. They were extremely excited about designing our own Gold RRS badge. This will be one of our projects this term. We talked about the start to the school year and the children spoke so positively about their new classes and teachers.

**'I love the shoeless learning. I feel relaxed and ready to learn.'** Year 3

**'Our teachers are lovely and make learning fun! We are happy!'** Year 4

**'Our classrooms are colourful, warm and welcoming'** Year 5

**'The children are smiling in their lessons. Lessons are fun!'** Year 6

## **St Catherine's welcomes Martins School**

We were delighted to welcome the Rights Respecting Ambassadors, teachers and Chair of Governors from Martins School on Friday. Our RRS Ambassadors gave them a tour of the whole school and afterwards we gathered in the main hall to be Rights Respecting detectives. What could we see or hear that evidenced that we are a Rights respecting School?

There was so much to celebrate. Here are some of the examples they listed– welcoming school, creative learning environment, calm and exciting, every class had a concern and worry box so children listened to, charters and theme of the month in every class, front entrance celebrated who we are (wordle, mission statement, photographs and certificates).

We are very keen to continue our partnership and hope to forge links in our future RRS work throughout the year. One initiative Martins School are involved in is Boots2Africa <http://www.boots2africa.co.uk/>. The RRS Ambassadors will be meeting next week and we will discuss how we can involve the school community.

## **Rights Respecting School– UNICEF**

### **Did you know?**

Day in, day out, our children are breathing dangerously high levels of air pollution. Across 86% of the UK, children are breathing in harmful levels of toxic air. Toxic air can harm their lungs, damage the development of their brains and stunt their growth. And it could leave them with lasting problems like asthma, badly affecting their futures. Children are the least responsible for polluting the air but the most vulnerable to its harmful effects. This is wrong.

Every child has the right to health. Every child has the right to live, learn and play in a clean and safe environment. For more information visit the website below.

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/clean-air-child-health-air-pollution/>

### [Macmillan Coffee Morning](#)

Thank you to Mrs Queenan and the parents who helped organise the coffee morning today. As a school community we greatly appreciate their support and dedication to such a wonderful cause.



### [Harvest Festival](#)

Harvest Festival is being celebrated throughout the month, where farmers and growers give thanks for a successful harvest season and at St Catherine's we want to give to those less fortunate in our local community. This Harvest, we are appealing for donations of dry, tinned, long-life goods such as - tinned food (vegetables, fruit, meat, fish) - spreads (butter, jam, honey etc.)- long-life milk, juice and drinks - dried pasta - cooking sauces - condiments - tea and coffee - rice - cereal- toiletries. These will be taken to HAB- Homeless Action In Barnet in North Finchley. Thank you for your generosity.

### [CAFOD- Today is Family Fast Day](#)

This Fast Day, CAFOD, invited us to fast, pray and give, so we extend our hand of friendship to the world poorest people. At our parishes the parish priests invited us to eat a simple meal, lunch or dinner and give the money we save to help children around the world. We were invited to take a Fast Day envelope from our church and return the following week.

For further information please visit <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Fast-Day>

### [Happy Shoesday](#)

Our school participated in HAPPY SHOESDAY on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October to raise funds for road safety and to encourage everyone to walk to School.

### [How it worked?](#)

Children wore their happy shoes, walk to school and brought in a suggested £1 to donate to our chosen charity, Living Streets.

### **WEBSITE: INFORMATION**

Your happy shoes could be anything from trainers or wellies to slippers or boots - or get creative and change the laces, add beads, wings or stickers. You can also download a shoe cape template to turn your shoes in to shoe-per-heroes at: [www.livingstreets.org/happyschoesday](http://www.livingstreets.org/happyschoesday)

Our donations went towards Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking - working to make streets safer for all since 1929.