



St. Catherine's Rights Respecting School Newsletter
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UNICEF UK RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL GOLD AWARD

A message from Unicef

‘Congratulations on achieving the final stage of the Rights Respecting Schools Award, Gold: Rights Respecting. You are now one of over 350 schools in the UK to have reached the highest stage of the RRSA. Your school may now download and use the Rights Respecting School Award Gold logo. This logo must be used as it appears and not be altered in any way. Reaching Gold is a fantastic achievement and we encourage you to celebrate this within and beyond the school gate. ‘

We are extremely proud of our journey! This banner is now displayed for all members of our school and local community to see.



Our Visit to Brettenham Juniors

We had the most amazing visit to Brettenham before the summer holidays. The Years 3-5 Rights Respecting Ambassadors had a tour of the school and then made a lovely display using biscuits, icing sugar and cake toppings of our school names to demonstrate our partnership. Naturally it would be rude to waste food so they ate them!!!!

The children wrote a report which we have emailed to Mrs Brown and the ambassadors. "One of the highlights of our visit was the tour around the school because we got to see all the artwork and the classrooms. We also enjoyed decorating the biscuits and spelling out St Catherine's and Brettenham. We hope we can use some of the displays they had because they were so colourful." Gabriel and Charlotte 5M

"I enjoyed all the art work and mosaics around the school. I liked the multi-coloured Stairs- dark blue going up and light blue coming down. I liked the pictures from the Olympics. I liked watching the year 6 play 'Macbeth'. They all contributed so well. The RRS Ambassadors knew a lot about their school and they were willing to share that with us.' Kimmianne 5S

We thanked Mrs Jo Brown for all her help and guidance on our journey to the Gold Award.



Thank You to our Year 6 Ambassadors!

It was a pleasure to meet with our Year 6 rights Respecting Ambassadors before the holidays to thank them for all their hard work over the last 2 years. Read below their thoughts on this wonderful experience.

“I was honoured to be a part of the RRS Ambassador group. I am passionate about every child having these rights no matter where they live. I have enjoyed the experience of working alongside other RRS Ambassadors. I felt so happy for our school community when we received the Gold Award. We show our rights in our learning and playing and we are a caring school.” Isabella Gunzi 6C

“it has become more recognised as a school that we are equal and that everyone has the same rights. I felt so happy when we received the Gold Award. The hard work getting to Level 1 and then the Gold Award! Now we are helping other schools.” Callum Lonagan

“I have greatly enjoyed it. It is interesting to learn about other children. I enjoyed visiting other schools and to see other schools doing this too. I felt all our hard work came to something when we received the Gold Award. It helped me to really understand that every child in our world has these rights from the day they are born.” Lily Freeman 6V

“I think starting RRS was good for St Catherine’s to help others and to learn at the same time. It helped us to get the Gold Award. When we found out we were very proud of ourselves. I liked how we worked together and had the opportunity to work with other children.” Anna Bryce

“When we got the gold we felt very proud. We achieved this for St Catherine’s. I enjoyed working with other schools and we are grateful for their help. I have learnt there are rights for ALL children but sadly not all children get them.” Niamh Guthrie

“I really enjoyed working with new people. I liked learning about Rights Respecting and how it helps children all around the world. I know that I have a voice, I can speak out and I can change a lot of things. Sometimes some children’s rights not respected and UNICEF are trying to change this. I felt happy and honoured when we were told we had been awarded the Gold Award. “Abigail Adan

Rights Respecting School Charters

During the course of the next two weeks the children will be creating 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 will set their charter out in a visible way for the whole school community to share

Establishing and building shared values and relationships for a Rights Respecting Classroom

Creating a charter or agreement can be helpful in making the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) a real and meaningful guide to action for adults and children

on a day to day basis. It also helps everyone to learn more about particular articles of the Convention that impact most on their life at school. The charter/agreement helps to develop a sense of shared ownership of the classroom and learning. Once developed it becomes a point of reference for the class and once signed by the teacher, support staff and children it can act as the 'social glue' which binds everyone together.

The Global Learning Programme



During the first half of the Autumn Term all classes will be familiarizing themselves with the Global Goals as part of our Global Learning Programme.

What are the Sustainable Development Goals?

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), otherwise known as the Global Goals, are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

These 17 Goals build on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, while including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities. The goals are interconnected – often the key to success on one will involve tackling issues more commonly associated with another.

Each week in our school newsletter we will concentrate on one goal to inform our school community of the meaning of each goal.

The Global Goals in full

- Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries
- Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

Article of The Month & Thought for the Month



We will continue to share our Article of the Month and Thought for the Month with our whole school community via our weekly newsletter and of course in this half-treble newsletter. As we start a new month each class has been introduced to the new 'Article of the Month' and the 'Thought for the Month'.

Rights Respecting Ambassadors Meet some of our School Governors

The Rights Respecting Ambassadors look forward to meeting some of our school governors during the course of the Autumn Term. It is vital that we build on all the good work which enabled us to achieve our gold award.



School Council

We thank all of our School Council Representatives before the end of the Summer Term. What a Team! We met to celebrate our year as the St Catherine's School Council. We thanked the Year 6 children as they prepare to move on to their new secondary schools.

"I am glad I had the opportunity to be listened to and speak for my class. I hope this helps me to become a better leader in the future." Willow Brennan 6C

"It has been fun! I think it has helped me build up my skills as a person. I think it has helped the school with the decisions and suggestions we have made." Oran Cochrane 6V

We look forward to the election of new representatives this coming term.

IMPORTANT DATES THIS HALF TERM

September

World Literacy Day

Date: 8 Sep

What is it: International Literacy Day, UNESCO reminds the international community of the status of literacy and adult learning globally.

Rights Link: Article 29: Goals of education

International Day of Democracy

Date: 15 Sep

What is it: The International Day of Democracy was established by the UN in 2007 as an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world. In particular, the day celebrates the values of freedom, respect for human rights and the principle of holding genuine elections by universal suffrage.

Rights Link: Article 12: Respect for the views of the child

World Peace Day

Date: 21 Sep

What is it: The International Day of Peace was established by the United Nations in 1981 as a day 'devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within

and among all nations and peoples’.

Rights Link: Article 38: War and armed conflicts

[International Right to Know Day](#)

Date: 28 Sep

What is it: The aim of Right to Know Day is to raise awareness of every individual’s right of access to government-held information: the right to know how elected officials are exercising power and how tax-payers’ money is being spent.

Rights Link: Article 17: Access to information from the media

[Macmillan Coffee Morning](#)

Date: 30 Sep

What is it: The World’s Biggest Coffee Morning is the Macmillan cancer charity’s biggest fundraising event.

Rights Link: Article 24: Health and health services

October

[World Habitat Day](#)

Date: 1 Oct

What is it: The day is intended as an opportunity to reflect on the state of our towns and cities and the basic right of all to adequate shelter. It is also intended to remind the world of its collective responsibility for the future of the human habitat.

Rights Link: Article 27: Adequate standard of living; Article 26: Social security

[Black History Month](#)

Date: 1 – 31 Oct

What is it: Black History Month, also known as African-American History Month in America, is an annual observance in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom for remembrance of important people and events in the history of the African diaspora.

Rights Link: Article 30: Children from minority or indigenous groups

[International Day of Non-Violence](#)

Date: 2 Oct

What is it: Established by the United Nations, the International Day of Non-Violence is held on the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence. The Day is an occasion to ‘disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness’.

Rights Link: Article 19: Protection from violence, abuse and neglect

[World Teachers Day](#)

Date: 5 Oct

What is it: The day was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Its aim is to mobilise support for teachers and to ensure that the needs of future generations will continue to be met by teachers.

Rights Link: Article 29: Goals of education

[World Mental Health Day](#)

Date: 10 Oct

What is it: The World Health Organisation recognises World Mental Health Day on 10 October every year. This year's theme set by the World Federation for Mental Health is psychological first aid and the support people can provide to those in distress.

Rights Link: Article 24: Health and health services; Article 25: Review of treatment in care

[International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction](#)

Date: 13 Oct

What is it: Day aims to to raise awareness about what we can all do to reduce our risk of disasters from earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes.

Rights Link: Article 27: Adequate standard of living

[World Food Day](#)

Date: 16 Oct

What is it: World Food Day is a day of action against hunger because when it comes to hunger, the only acceptable number in the world is zero. World Food Day celebrates the creation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on October 16, 1945 in Quebec, Canada.

Rights Link: Article 6: Life, survival and development; Article 24: Health and health services

[International Day for the Eradication of Poverty](#)

Date: 17 Oct

What is it: This day aims to promote awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution in all countries, particularly in developing countries – a need that has become a development priority.

Rights Link: Article 26: Social security

[Anti-Slavery Day](#)

Date: 18 Oct

What is it: Modern-day slavery as child trafficking, forced labour, domestic servitude and trafficking for sexual exploitation. **Rights Link:** Article 35: Abduction, sale and trafficking

