

Harewood C of E Primary School

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“Educating for Life In All Its Fullness”

Dear families,

Next week we are celebrating two national themes, which also support our Religious Education and PSHE curriculums and they complement each other nicely; anti-bullying and interfaith. During the week we are going to celebrate kindness, respect and tolerance. I know Mr Ratcliffe has already mentioned that there will be activities in each class throughout the week to support the children’s understanding, but I wanted to let you have a few more details so you can perhaps help the children to think carefully about our main, whole school shared activities, which are happening on Monday and Wednesday.



On Monday it’s ‘Odd Socks Day’. The children should come in uniform but wear odd socks to show how it’s okay to be different and that it should be something we celebrate. The theme of the Anti-bullying week this year is ‘One kind word’ and the theme for the Interfaith week is “ Story Trees”. On Wednesday we will be combining these themes to make a tree of our own together. Once completed it will be displayed in pride of place in the library.

The older children are always telling me how they love to play, work with and support the younger children and they are fabulous with them; it was something we all missed hugely when we had to be in bubbles. Consequently, the plan for Wednesday morning is for the children in classes Three and Four to partner up with the children from classes One and Two. They will support each other for a crafting morning and each child will decorate their own leaf for the tree, as unique and beautiful as they are.

The tree may symbolise different things to different people. To me, our tree will represent nurturing, stability and the connected ‘family’ we share in our school community. The leaves represent each of our children as individuals. The wooden leaves we are going to use are identical in their material but different sizes and shapes, one side will be decorated in the individual style of the child they represent and the other side will have the child’s name and a short message, quote or just a single word. The word/message could be connected to our school Christian values, values that are special in your own faith or general words of kindness, peace, unity and friendship – this is one of the things you might want to think about at home together.

I will also talk to the children on Monday, in Collective Worship, so they have chance to plan. I will show them the size of the leaves and suggest some methods and materials we have to decorate them – stressing the importance of individuality. If they wish, they can bring something with them from home on Wednesday to use on their leaf, so this is something else you can help with.

Thank you for your time and in anticipation of your support, as always.

Mrs Watts

