



Values Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

Our focus value for the month of March is **RESPECT**

This value is one of our three core principles and is at the heart of everything we do in school. It underpins learning through behaviour and one's attitude to the people and the world around them. We are extremely lucky that our school community (staff, children, parents, governors) is a very positive, supportive and respectful one.

One of the most important things you can teach your child is respect.

Keep in mind that respect is not the same as obedience. Children might obey because they are afraid. If they respect you, they will obey because they know you want what's best for them.

The best way to teach respect is to show respect. When a child experiences respect, they know what it feels like and begin to understand how important it is. Respect is an attitude. Being respectful helps a child succeed in life. If children don't have respect for peers, authority, or themselves, it's almost impossible for them to succeed.

A respectful child takes care of belongings and responsibilities, and a respectful child gets along with peers. Schools teach children about respect, **but parents have the most influence on how respectful children become.**

How can you show respect to your child?

- *Be honest - If you do something wrong, admit it and apologise.*
- *Be positive - Don't embarrass, insult or make fun of your child. Compliment them.*
- *Be trusting - Let your child make choices and take responsibility.*
- *Be fair - Listen to your child's side of the story before reaching a conclusion.*
- *Be polite - Use "please" and "thank you". Knock before entering your child's room.*
- *Be reliable - Keep promises. Show your child that you mean what you say.*
- *Be a good listener - Give your child your full attention.*

How can you teach respect to your child?

- *Children learn from everything we say and do. Make sure that you are modelling respectful behaviour.*
- *Teach your child to respect themselves. Self-respect is one of the most important forms of respect. Once we respect ourselves, it is easier to respect others.*
- *Your opinion means a lot to your child. If you believe your child can succeed, they will believe they can as well.*
- *Build their independence. Give them responsibilities as soon as they can handle them.*
- *Help them set and achieve goals. Their self-respect will skyrocket when they see themselves achieving those goals.*
- *Encourage honesty. Let your child know that they may be able to fool some people, but they can't fool themselves. There is no pride in stealing, cheating, or lying.*

Please use the assembly as a starting point to help you to engage with your child and discuss this value so that they can share their perspective. It is wonderful to see children really listening to and learning from each other's thoughts and experiences.

With very best wishes

Maxine Smith

Deputy Head