

Dear Parents and Carers,

A busy week!

We have had a week full of learning and events in school, which has made the week fly past so quickly! First, we had Remembrance assembly from year 6, which was an amazing opportunity for us to gather together and remember those who have been lost in past and present wars.

On Tuesday, the children came into school in their odd socks for Anti-Bullying week. The children have also had classroom assemblies to discuss what bullying means and can look like; the odd socks remind us about how wonderfully diverse we all are, and how that makes our community so special.

Thursday and Friday have seen a very busy Book Fair take place in the library. Well done to our 5 competition winners Robert (year R), Ellie (year 2), Aston (year 3), Emily (year 4) and Rosie (year 5) - I hope you spent your voucher well!

Then, to top off the week, we went colourful and wild-haired for Children in Need. Children have come into school today in their own clothes and wild hair to raise money for charity. A bake sale will also be held at the end of today (Friday) so thank you to all the adults who contributed to that too.

Phew—what a busy week! Well done to all the children and adults who have taken part and worked hard!

Fun Run

Thirty of our year 4s, 5s and 6s went to Abington Park to take part in a Fun Run. This was not a competitive event, but a chance for the children to enjoy their exercise. The weather started off foggy but luckily the sun came out.



The children behaved beautifully, representing Rectory Farm Primary brilliantly. Hopefully, we will join the event again next year so more children get to have a go! Thank you to all the adults who helped with driving the minibus and looking after the children.

Curriculum

Year R — This week Reception have begun their topic of people who help us. They have had the opportunity to talk to members of staff within school to find out what their jobs are and ask them how they help children.

Year 5 — This week Year 5 have been working very hard with their Maths. The children have been exploring the factors of numbers and the common factors that many numbers share. They moved on to consider Prime Numbers and how to identify a Prime Number before finishing the week thinking about Squared Numbers. The children have done a great job in using mathematical resources, such as counters and cubes, to help them think about these new ideas. Well done Year 5, what an exciting mathematical week!

Online Home Learning!

Spelling Shed 

1st: Maple 

2nd: Willow 

Igor – Year 4 

Patricia – Year 1 

Eva – Year 3 

1st: Maple 

2nd: Beech 



Jacob (2) – Super Star Collector 

Eduard (4) – Most coins 

1st: Sycamore 

2nd: Maple 

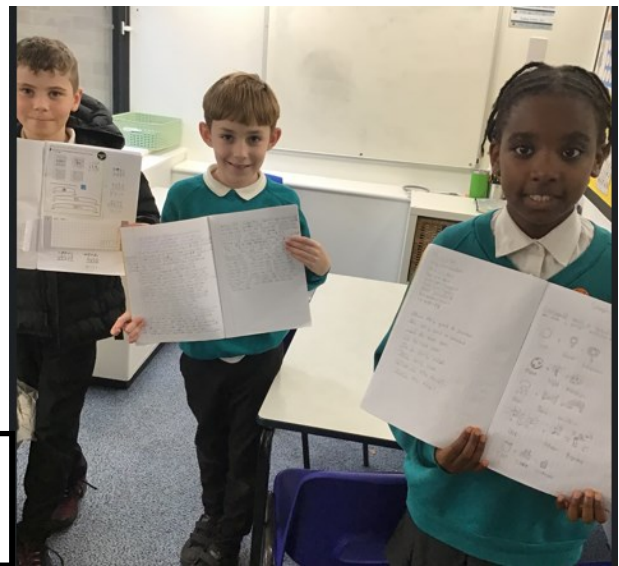


Michal (6) – Most minutes 

T'Meila (4) – Most coins 

Matas (3) – Most correct answers 

Here are Joey, Charlie and Diadem, who have been completing homework their teacher has not even set! Well done on being so motivated.



Thank you to our sixty children who entered our competition—we were overwhelmed by the quality and it was such a tricky decision! Here are our 5 winners and their characters. All the winners have received a £5 voucher for the Book Fair. Well done to all the children who entered!



Dates for your Diary

Date	Year Group	Event
18th October	All	Book Fair

Messages from Mrs Llewelyn (our Family Support Worker and DSL)



Dear parents/carers,

Every month there is a new edition of Stay Connected. This newsletter focuses on all the amazing events, clubs and groups that families, children and young people can access across the county that are free or affordable to attend. Here is November's edition: [West Northamptonshire Stay Connected November 2024](#)

Many thanks

Sam L

If coming into school on foot, please use the path and do not cross over the car park. This is to make sure we keep everyone safe. Thank you!



Miss Walker-Collins —Acting Deputy Headteacher

Mrs. Williams—Executive Headteacher

Friday 8th November 2024

School Contact details: Tel – 01604 4011820

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.

