

News from Mrs Murray – PSHE Curriculum Leader

Our school is taking part in Anti-Bullying Week this term between Monday 16th and Friday 20th November. Anti-Bullying Week helps schools across England to shine a spotlight on bullying and encourage all children, teachers and parents to take action against bullying throughout the year.

The theme this year is 'United against bullying.' This will be a wonderful opportunity to emphasise that anti-bullying in schools is fundamentally about the choices that individual pupils make when they are upset, distressed, worried or have relationship difficulties.

It is organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance to support children with issues relating to bullying and working together with schools to stop bullying.

It aims to encourage all teachers and support staff to use their choices wisely by valuing the difference they can make in a child's life, and taking individual and collective action to prevent bullying and create safe environments where children can thrive.

As parents/carers what can we do to support this?

- Talk to your child about bullying and Anti-Bullying Week.
- Ensure that you and your child understand the difference between bullying and other behaviour incidents
- Bullying is when **all three** of the following have occurred;
 - hurt has been done deliberately/knowingly caused (physically or emotionally)
 - it is a repeated incident/experience and/or is carried out by a group
 - there is an imbalance of power (e.g. target feels they cannot defend themselves or perpetrator is exploiting their power – size/age etc.).
- Other behaviour incidents which are not bullying include;
 - one-off hurtful incidents between children
 - teasing/banter between friends without the intention to hurt
 - falling out between friends after a disagreement.

A simple, short way to explain to children the meaning of bullying uses the word '**Stop**', as follows;

S	T	O	P	S everal
				T imes
				O n
				P urpose

During our Anti-bullying week the children will be participating in various activities to complement their understanding of what bullying is and the forms it may take.

The children will be taking part in activities including discussion time, creative learning, reading comprehensions, scenario challenges, question and answers time, role play, sorting activities, sentence starters. All classes will produce some work of their choice which will then be displayed in the school for other children to see.

Thank you for your support