



Joy Lane Primary School

A Love of Learning, for Life, for All

Thursday 11th February 2016

Oyster Bay Nursery & Oysters SRP (ASD)

Executive Headteacher: Ms D J Hines

Head of School: Mr M Ashley-Jones

Dear Parents & Carers of Year 4 Pupils



Year 4 are excited to announce that they will be participating in the 'Go Givers Make a Difference' Challenge. The Make a Difference Challenge demonstrates Go-Givers in action! It is a child-led citizenship project for KS2 that supports pupils in identifying, researching and addressing a cause or concern that they want to do something about. It gives them opportunities to develop an awareness raising campaign, to fundraise or take direct action about their chosen cause.

The challenge presents an opportunity for children to take the lead in making a difference to their communities and provides an excellent context for meaningful Social, Moral, Spiritual, and Cultural learning, literacy, numeracy and personal development.

The children must make their own choices about the cause that they wish to support. They have now had their first two 'Make a difference' lessons and have enjoyed thinking of different causes, reasoning how they could 'make a difference' and finally, voting on their joint cause. They have enjoyed taking ownership and making a democratic decision on the cause that they would like to support.

They started off with a range of ideas such as the elderly, cancer, sick children, homeless, recycling, animals, the Endeavour charity for injured soldiers (which Henry Worsley was supporting when he died last week), foodbank, parking around school, improving the railway bridge by the beach which is covered in graffiti and supporting refugee children.

After lots of discussion, the children decided to support a children's charity such as 'Save the Children', who focus on helping children in need, such as refugee children. We see this option as being topical, creating empathy and understanding and really making a difference to our children's outlooks. We are keen for them to make a difference in a practical way, by doing more than raising money through sponsored events, which they already do lots of.

During half term we are asking the children to think of ways that we could support the cause. Can they research charities that are supporting refugee children in some way? How are they offering support? Is it financial or practical? The children can choose to take the project in so many directions: co-ordinating toy or essentials packs, raising funds for a larger charity such as 'Save the Children' or raising awareness of the needs and issues. It could include lots of reflection, empathising with other situations, reasoning what the basic needs are, letter writing, and charity involvement. It is a challenge that will really fit in with our caring focus.

Remember, we love to see the children's homework, so if you are able to photograph, create mind maps, posters or present your research in another exciting way, we would be keen to see it! We will be building a scrapbook to present our work, so please could we ask for A4 or smaller.

Thank you for your continued support of our learning and enrichment activities.

Year 4