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8th November 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back. I hope you all had a lovely half term. We have had a brilliant start to our new curriculum themes and there has been some wonderful learning happening this week. You can find out more in our curriculum bulletins on the website:

Curriculum Bulletins

Year 3 had a very exciting time on Wednesday when they took part in a live ballet lesson hosted by professionals from the Royal Ballet and Nursery children enjoyed their very first trip to the Corbett Community Library. We have lots of fantastic things planned for the rest of this term so please make sure you check the dates for your diary section.

Next week is Anti-Bullying Week. The theme this year is '**Choose Respect.**' This fits in beautifully with our core values and we will be using assembly time, PSHE lessons and core learning time to think about ways in which we can earn respect from others and why it is an important quality to develop.

Don't forget that on Friday next week we will be raising money for BBC Children in Need. We are inviting children to wear something spotty to school for a small cash donation to support some of the local and national charities who benefit from the support of Pudsey and friends.

I hope you have a great weekend.

Best wishes

Manda George

Headteacher



Rights Respecting School



This week during our rights respecting assemblies, we have been discussing article 38 and Remembrance Day. Remembrance unites people of all faiths, cultures and backgrounds in honouring those who defend our democratic freedom and way of life. The UK has a long tradition of marking Armistice Day, calling to mind the moment when fighting ceased at the end of the First World War, at 11.00am on the 11th November 1918. We spoke about how children were affected by the war and how important Article 38 is in order to protect children in war.

Christmas Cards

To customise and order your child's cards or other gift items, visit www.apfsorders.co.uk and input the unique code found on the label on the back of your child's artwork. You will also be asked to input your child's first name and surname – this is just for the school's benefit to help with distribution of orders.

Orders must be placed by midnight Wednesday 20th November.

At the start of December, you will receive your cards and any other items you've ordered!



CHRISTMAS PROJECT
Turn your child's creativity into personalised gifts that everyone will love!

HOW TO ORDER:

- 1 Visit apfsorders.co.uk
- 2 Enter the unique artwork code on the back of your child's artwork under the QR code.
- 3 Place your order and get your unique gifts delivered to school.

Why doesn't the QR code scan on the back of my artwork?
The QR code is for internal use only and won't work with external devices. Head to apfsorders.co.uk and enter your unique code.

What if I miss the deadline?
You can still place an order, but the school won't receive fundraising, and your items will be sent to your home with an additional postage fee.

What if you didn't send us your artwork?
No problem, just enter the 8 character code that appears under your QR code on the reverse of your artwork and you will be prompted to upload a photo of your artwork (Jpeg).

When will I receive my order?
Your order will be delivered to the school along with all other orders on the date agreed by the organiser.

TAP HERE

01227 262417 info@apfs.org.uk [f](#) [@](#) **Art projects** for schools

Update from our Governors

As governors we are keen to keeping families informed about what we do. The Governing Board has several subcommittees and this half term we wanted to let you know about some of the work that the Children Families and Communities committee has been doing. Last year we had a big focus on ensuring that children attend school regularly. We know how important regular attendance is for children and how quickly they can fall behind with their learning and their friendships if they miss school. We helped the school to put new measures in place to support good attendance and saw some real improvements through the year, which was great. We will be continuing to monitor attendance this year. We also looked closely at what the school and the Governing Board are doing to ensure that we are putting the London Borough of Lewisham's pledge to Tackle Race Inequality in Education into practice, focussing on different issues at each meeting.

One of the key things we want to do this year is to hear more from parents and carers and we will be developing a questionnaire to send out to you next term. We are also planning for governors to come along to parents evenings in the future to meet with you and hear your views about the school, so look out for us at these!

Best Wishes

Sarah Wright

Vice Chair of Governors

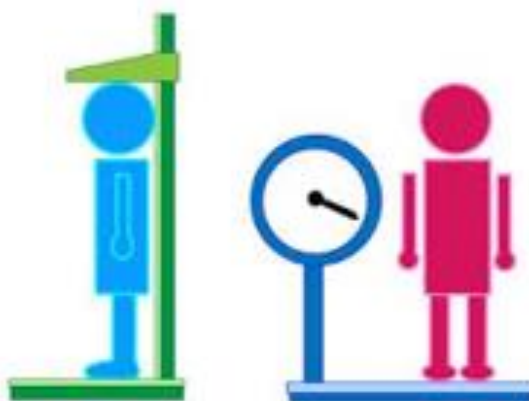
Attendance Matters

At Torridon, we believe that every day matters in a child's education and encourage all children to attend school regularly and punctually. As you may be aware, the government has updated guidance for schools on attendance this year. There are two main changes of which you should be aware. The guidance states:

1. **'The DfE does not consider a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation to be an exceptional circumstance.'** This means that we are not able to authorise any absence for holidays. If you do need to apply for absence for other exceptional circumstances, please contact the office and complete and complete an absence request form.
2. **'Schools must consider whether a penalty notice for absence is appropriate in each individual case.'** This means that, if your child has ten sessions (or five days) of unauthorised absence within a period of ten weeks, we are required to consider issuing a fine.

Height and Weight Screening

**Height and Weight Screening
on the 19th November 2024 for Year 6 and
Reception ONLY**



Anti-Bullying Week – Monday 11th to Friday 15th November



This Anti-Bullying Week let's 'Choose Respect' and bring an end to bullying which negatively impacts millions of young lives. This year, we'll empower children and young people to not resort to bullying, even when we disagree and remind adults to lead by example, online and offline.

Imagine a world where respect and kindness thrive — it's not just a dream, it's in the choices we make. Join us this Anti-Bullying Week and commit to 'Choose Respect'.

We'll kick start the week with '**Odd Socks Day**' on **Tuesday the 12th November**. The odder the better!



On **Friday 15th November** we will be asking you to all get spotty for Children in Need. Please come to school **wearing something spotty**. Cash donations can be given to staff at the gates.



Nursery – Corbett Community Library Trip

This week Nursery went on their first trip to Corbett Community library. The children enjoyed singing the songs and listening to the firework stories. Also, they looked at books with the adults and their friends.



Reception – Let's Celebrate!

Reception's new learning theme has gone off with a BANG! We have been learning about all different kinds of celebrations and traditions. The children have enjoyed making firework displays, Rangoli patterns, and decorating their very own salt dough Diwali lamps. We have had so much fun role playing our own birthday parties, bonfires, even using our voices to make the sounds of the fireworks – BANG, CRACKLE, POP!



Year 1 - Diwali

This week, we investigated the Hindu celebration of Diwali. The celebration of Diwali marks the Hindu new year and means 'row of lighted lamps'. We learned the story Diwali and looked at some ways in which Hindus celebrate this festival. We made our very own Rangoli art using India's national animal, the peacock, as inspiration.



Year 2 – African Adventure

This week in Year 2, we have begun our exciting new topic – *African Adventure*! We kicked things off by reading the story *Meerkat Mail*, which follows the adventures of a curious meerkat named Sunny as he explores the African Savannah. Inspired by his travels, we wrote our own postcards to send to Sunny's meerkat family. We tried hard to use our senses in our postcard to detail what we could see, feel, smell and hear on our amazing safari adventure!



Year 3 – Live Ballet



Year 3 took part in an online Live Ballet lesson this week called “Discover Ballet”. Led by dancers from the Royal Opera House, the children danced their way through a historical timeline of Kings and Queens from conflict to war using classical ballet.



During the introduction, children were taken on an online tour to the costume and prop department where they learnt about how items are made used by The Montagues and Capulets in the Romeo and Juliet Ballet.

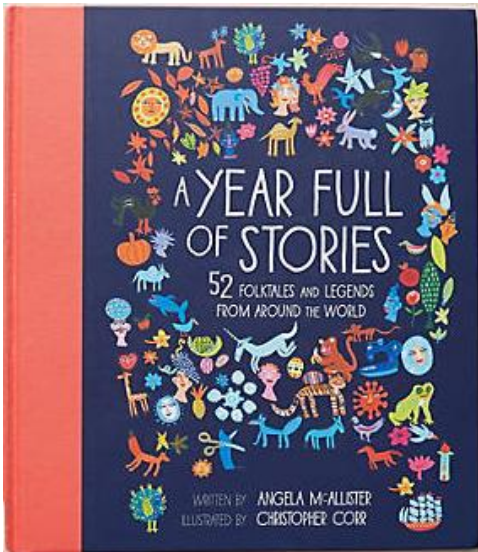
The dancers were incredible, and learning some of the actions was lots of fun!

Year 4 - Science

As part of our science topic on digestion, the children in Year 4 had an excellent time making their own digestive systems out of items given to them. They had to think about which items would be best for which part, before building their systems and pushing food through it. It was messy but fun!



Year 5



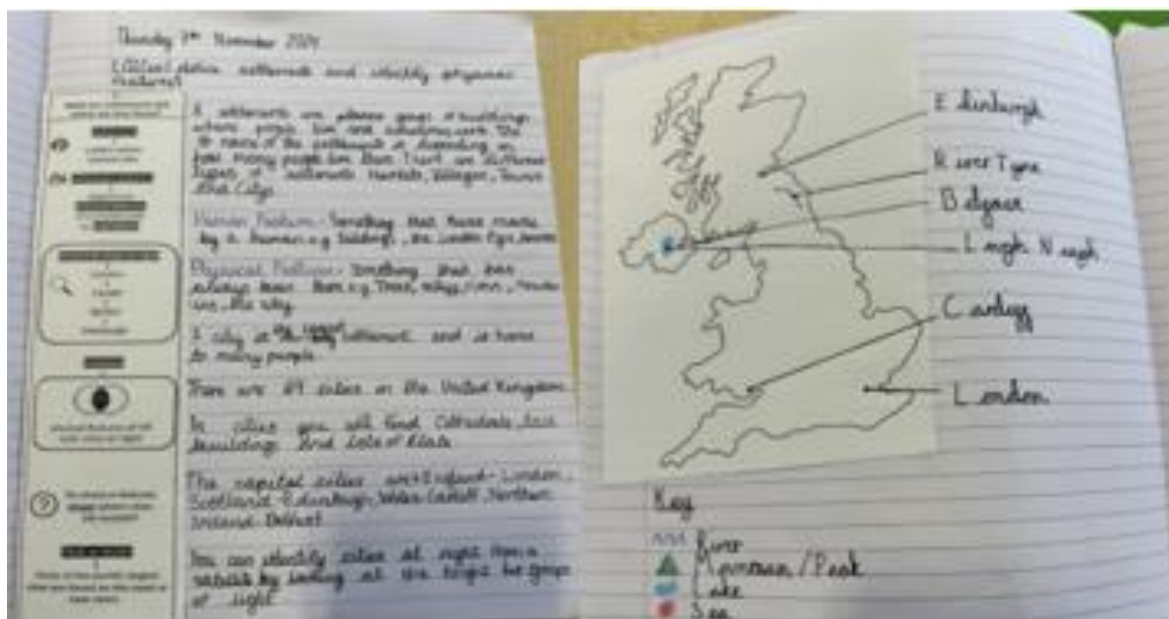
In our reading lessons this week, year 5 have begun reading stories from all around the world. So far, we have read stories from Russia, Poland, Germany and Latvia. Our favourite story this week was a Polish story called '*The Shoemaker and the Dragon*'. In this story, people came from far and wide to slay a dragon that was terrorising the villagers.



Even the post strongest warrior failed and dies a fiery death. The village was saved thanks to a clever shoemaker.

Year 6 - Geography

Year 6 have started their new topic 'Human Settlements' by developing their understanding of what settlements really mean. They explored different types of settlements, and why people might choose to settle in certain areas. They gained a deeper understanding of how the physical and human features of a place might influence people's decision when looking for a place to live and work. They went on to use atlases to identify the four capital cities, as well as different physical features on the UK map and plotted them on a blank map, using a key to explain their findings.



Resource Base Learning

This week in the resource base we have been exploring mark making and drawing, using different media. The children had great fun making different patterns.



Allotment Club

Over the half term break our greenhouse was upgraded. The chapel roof was removed and a new corrugated roof was designed by Tom. We have insulated the walls and our greenhouse is finally watertight!

A huge thank you to Tom and Darryl for their hard work.



Allotment club worked at rapid speed to plant 200 bulbs into our new pallet planters to brighten up our playground come next Spring. The children designed signs from leftover pallet pieces too!

We still have 6 more planters to fill next week.



Times Tables Rock Stars Competition

As part of our commitment to make maths exciting and high profile in our school, we are taking part in a friendly competition involving schools in England. The competition runs from 07:30 GMT Tuesday 12th November 2024 to 19:30 GMT Thursday 14th November 2024. It's all done online via play.ttrockstars.com.

Children can play in any game mode with every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, earning themselves, their class and the school a point. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform will calculate the class average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who play during the competition hours, subject to a daily 60-minute limit (see below)).

Winning classes in the school and in the competition as a whole will be the ones with the highest average.

To support player wellbeing, there is a daily time limit of 60-minutes per player. Once the player goes beyond 60-minutes of play on that day, they will still earn coins but will no longer earn points towards the competition. In the spirit of the competition, please don't play on their behalf but by all means encourage and support them!



ENGLAND ROCKS ÷

12TH - 14TH NOVEMBER
7:30AM TO 7:30PM DAILY

÷ **PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE!** **1HR TIME LIMIT PER PERSON!** ×

WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER STUDENT!

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

The poster features a blue and red background with a yellow lightning bolt. It includes a large 'ENGLAND ROCKS' title with a division symbol, a date and time banner, two rules boxes with division and multiplication symbols, a winning criteria statement, and a footer with speaker icons and the 'TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS' logo.

Dates for Your Diary

Week beginning 11th November	Anti-Bullying week
Monday 11 th November	Year 1 to Horniman Museum
Tuesday 12 th November	Nursery and Reception oracy workshop for parents and carers
Friday 15th November	BBC Children in Need
	Year 5 and 6 football tournament
Monday 18th November	Individual, sibling and class photographs
Tuesday 19 th November	Reception and Year 6 height and weight screening
Wednesday 20 th November	Year 2 to London Zoo
Friday 22nd November	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN
Thursday 28 th and Friday 29 th November	Whole school art exhibition
Week beginning 2nd December	Whole school assessment week
Thursday 12 th December	Friends of Torridon PTA School Disco
Friday 13 th December	9.00 Year 5 assembly performance 2.45 Year 6 assembly performance
Monday 16 th December	9.00 Year 1 assembly performance 2.00 Resource Base assembly performance 2.45 Year 2 assembly performance
Tuesday 17 th December	Early Years Nativity performance 9.00am OR 2.45pm
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 19 th December	9.00 Year 3 performance assembly 2.45 Year 4 performance assembly
Friday 20th December	Last day of the autumn term
Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
Monday 6th January 2025	First day of the spring tem

EYFS Oracy Workshop - 12th November 2024

EYFS Oracy Workshop

Early Years Workshop 12th November 2024

9 a.m. – 9.40am



Oracy provides all students with the skills to be challenged and progress with their learning. A focus on oracy ensures every voice is valued and that active listening and critical thinking are embedded.

This workshop is designed to encourage and develop **speaking** and **language skills** for all learners.



Pop in and enter our **free** raffle for a chance to win:



£50 Amazon gift card

£20 One4All gift card

£15 One4All gift card

£15 One4All gift card



Oracy Project

Over the next two years, the school is taking part in an oracy project in order to improve the educational and social outcomes for the children.

Oracy is the ability to listen, articulate ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language. By teaching children to become effective speakers and listeners we empower them to better understand themselves, each other and the world around them. We aim to develop the children's communication skills throughout all areas of the curriculum which will improve their well-being, self-esteem and confidence.

As part of this initiative, we will be setting an oracy task each week in the newsletter. These are small tasks that you can do at home with your child which will help them to build their speaking and listening skills.

We would be delighted if your child took part each week.








STARS OF THE WEEK



Class	Name	Reason
Nursery FT	Oliver	For playing nicely with his friends and for good listening during carpet time. Well done, Oliver! 😊
Nursery AM	Tishara	For joining in during our maths carpet time and remembering all of the actions to the song. Well done, Tishara! 😊
Nursery PM	Kallie	For sharing her experiences with her family whilst making Diva lamps this week. Well done, Kallie! 😊
Blue Class	Chizaram	For her enthusiastic attitude to learning. Well done!
Red Class	Leo	For his improved attitude to learning. Leo has tried his best this week. Well done Leo!
Yellow Class	Thomas	For always working hard and trying his best. Well done!
1M	Erin	For her enthusiasm, creativity and teamwork during our Forest School session. Keep it up Erin! 😊
1N	Peter	For the excellent progress he has made in phonics and writing. He has been making a quick start on his learning and writing independently. Well done! 😊
1W	Theo	For excellent independent learning in maths this week. He has even been trying to help his partner complete his maths. Well done!
2E	Shanaya	For her EXCELLENT progress with her maths. Her confidence and her independence have grown, and I am so proud of her. Well done, Shanaya! 😊
2S	Darcey	For always been kind and helpful towards her peers. Well done, Darcey! 😊
2SW	Safa	For her enthusiasm and determination during lessons. She has been trying her very best to improve her learning and be more independent. Well done Safa! 😊
3A	Xena	For being super independent during our reading comprehension lesson. You successfully used the retrieval skill to answer lots of questions by yourself. Well done, Xena! 😊
3G	Bobby	For his fantastic efforts in all lessons and for using a variety of adverbs in his sentences. Well done, Bobby! 😊
3S	Malakhi	For working hard in all areas of the curriculum. Well done for trying to have a positive attitude towards your learning. Keep it up 😊
4K	Libby	For her dedication and effort in doing extra research for our Geography topic. This was evident in her work this week. Keep up the fantastic work 😊
4L	Esther	For showing enthusiasm for our learning and an improvement in behaviour for learning. Well done, Esther!
4S	Emmaline	For her outstanding attitude to learning, for always taking great care and consideration in written tasks, particularly in science and geography this week.
5C	Rashid	For his enthusiasm in the stories from around the world that he is reading and being able to retell one of the stories orally. Well done!
5L	Rome	For being extremely helpful in class. Thank you for helping others and showing your kindness. Well done!
5V	Yacine	For showing excellence in every area of his learning. He is focused, takes part in class discussions, and puts in a lot of effort into his learning.
6A	Nevaeh	For displaying the core value of commitment towards her learning. She's an excellent role model for the class and school community. Keep it up!
6L	Arthur	For his insightful contributions in writing this week. Arthur has been able to identify contextual vocabulary and has used his own ambitious vocabulary within his own learning.
6R	Enis	For showing great progress in developing his inference skills. Well done.
RB Blue	Elliot	For great focus when completing his assessments.
RB Green	Macey	For having a positive attitude when completing her learning

Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance	
1M	97%		3A	95%		5C	94%	
1N	96.9%		3G	98%		5L	93%	
1W	96%		3S	90%		5V	96%	
2S	91%		4K	93%		6A	93%	
2SW	94%		4L	97%		6R	90%	
2E	94%		4S	93%		6L	93%	

Well done to all the classes who won the attendance cup this week!

Christmas Festivals



2nd Annual

St Andrew's Catford

Christmas Tree Festival

25th - 30th November

Carols and concerts throughout the week

Mulled wine, mince pies, festive activities and stalls in the Church Hall and Corbett Library on Saturday 30th.

PARISH OF SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE CATFORD

This event is sponsored by:




Downham Celebrates

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Sat 30th Nov 11am - 4pm

Free Fun & Activities for All
Food & Refreshments
Free Gift at
Santas Grotto
Christmas Market
Nativity Dress Up
Raffle

No Booking!
Just Get a Ticket
...On The Day, to Reserve
your **FREE VISIT** to
SANTAS GROTTO!

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7-9 Moorside road BR1 5EP



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MESH/STRIPED
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GYM BAG
(PURPLE)
£5.00



JUNIOR BACKPACK
£16.00



BOOKBAG
£11.00



EVERYDAY
UNIFORM SHORTS
FROM £10.00



SOCKS & TIGHTS
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WATER BOTTLES
FROM £2.00



HAIR ACCESSORIES
VARIOUS



GINGHAM
SUMMER DRESS
FROM £14.00



WINTER WARMERS
GLOVES/SCARVES/HATS
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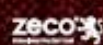
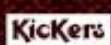


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OFFICIAL FOOTWEAR STOCKIST



ALL PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING (2024)

INSET Day Activities

Looking for fun activities for your children on the upcoming inset day? Friends of Torridon PTA has organised an exciting lineup at **Bellingham Leisure Centre** on **Friday, 22 November**:

Bellingham Leisure & Lifestyle Centre

Soft Play at Adventure Playzone

Various 1 hour slots ☆ £6.35 ☆ Age 3-10 or up to 147cm tall

Story workshop with local children's author Allison Parkinson

10:00 - 11:00 ☆ £1 ☆ Recommended for age 5-11

Football training session with Football Domination

11:00 - 12:00 ☆ £7 ☆ Age 7-11

Thai Boxing session with Thai Boxing Community Centre

2:15 - 3:00 pm ☆ £5 ☆ Age 6-12

[Click here](#) to learn more and book your child's place. Tickets are limited, so act fast to avoid disappointment. Note that children must be accompanied by a responsible adult and that parents/carers must accept full liability for any risk involved in their child's participation.

Questions? Email friendsoftorridonpta@gmail.com.

Help To Keep Abbotshall Open

Help to keep Abbotshall open - by buying your Christmas tree through us! We have a selection of beautiful Christmas wreaths and Nordman firs available, to be collected at our Christmas Fair on Sunday 1st December - or you can choose to have it delivered straight to your house! Early Bird discounts are available for two weeks only so get your order in quick at <https://abbotshallhlc.org.uk/christmas-trees>



Online Safety

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.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>

X @wake_up_weds

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ig @wake.up.wednesday

td @wake.up.weds