



# AUTUMN TERM

10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2022

## Values at Stepping Stones

This week the focused value is Tolerance. We will be focusing on how to show tolerance around school. We will be working with the children to understand how we can accept everyone for their unique skills and how we tolerate things we find tricky.



Thank you to the parents that let us know how your child is showing the values at home. They were celebrated in our daily meeting.

## House Teams

This week we are introducing 'House Teams'. All the children will be placed in mixed age teams for social times e.g. lunch time, meeting time etc.

The children can earn house points for their team by showing the school values and demonstrating exceptional behaviour. At lunch time the children will be able to earn house points for respect, tolerance, supporting others, quietest tables etc.

When we go on trips or have visitors in school the children may be in their house teams and earn points for their team by showing cooperation, determination and our school motto "A Can Do School!" which for us is showing positivity, determination and not giving up.

Therefore, the names of the teams have been devised from inspirational people who have shown those values.

Seacole House	Seacole House has been named after Mary Seacole, who was a great role model. She upheld strong values to be kind, supportive, and trustworthy. She was brave and determined. She put others first and nursed wounded soldiers in war battles.
Einstein House	Named after Albert Einstein. Many of us know Albert Einstein as a highly intelligent person. However, learning did not come easy for him. He also had to show inspirational values of perseverance, determination and resiliency. He never gave up and always learnt from his mistakes. This is something we are constantly encouraging our children to do at Stepping Stones.
Jordan House	Michael Jordan is a world famous basketball player. We know of him for his fame and skills. However, at high school he was not picked for the basketball team. His sporting skills had to be worked at. He showed determination and a "Can do Attitude!" He never gave up, practicing more and more to get to his goal.
Darwin House	Named after Charles Darwin. Again many of us know of Charles Darwin for his theory on evolution and his intelligence. However, he also found learning extremely challenging. He showed resiliency, positivity and determination. When he was unsuccessful with his application to go on to medical school, he never gave up and remained focused to follow his dreams.

We will be teaching the children about the inspirational people that their house teams represent and encouraging them to show the values, determination and resiliency in all areas of school life.

## Key Reminders

### Letters to return to school

Please can any outstanding letters and permission slips be sent to the office.

Remember – Any money coming into school e.g. dinners, trips should be in a named envelope.



### Borwick Hall Day Visits (Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October)

We have booked two separate days to go to Borwick Hall. We will be looking to take up to 12 children on the Tuesday and 12 children on the Wednesday. These will be mixed aged groups to promote team work, co-operation, listening skills and to widen our outdoor activities.

Letters for this trip will be sent home this week, however as always, your child's place on the trip will be dependent on the level of risk. We need to ensure that everyone is safe, and therefore we do expect the children to be showing that they can follow the school rules at school. (Safety, Respect and Learning) Safety is key! If a child is not able to listen to adults and remain safe at school then this trip can not be offered to them at this point. We will heavily subsidise the cost of this trip and ask for a contribution of £10 to support transport costs.

### KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

Over recent weeks we have had an increase in children stating they are accessing inappropriate apps, games for their age. We are also aware of children 'meeting up online via Xbox'. Whilst we know the internet, phones and mobile devices are wonderful, the online world and gaming world can be very inappropriate. Age Ratings are there for a reason. It is not appropriate for children to be on Call of Duty and replicating in school, the language and violence that they are seeing online.

Most apps like TikTok have a age rating of 13 and games such as Grand Theft Auto / Call of Duty are 18+ because of the content.

Whilst we appreciate that this may be allowed in some households we also need to outline that unsupervised and unmonitored accounts are putting children at risk. We have a number of children accessing material that is not suitable for their age and this is also impacting on school. We are happy to support and give further advice. Please be aware that if we do have information that your child is accessing inappropriate material we will follow this up with a phone call home. It is really important you safeguard your children from inappropriate content.

We have a section on our school website with further information.

<https://www.steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk/keeping-your-child-safe-online/>

### Reading at Home

**It was great to see so many children involved in reading activities at home last week! Thank you 😊**

This month our reading theme is Witches, Wizards and all things magical. A range of books will be available to loan each night. We are asking the passenger assistants, older children to read them to each other on the vehicles. We are also asking for you to share reading at home.

Please can you photograph your child listening to stories at home or sharing books at home and send them to the class teachers via Dojo or your child can tell the teachers about the book they have read / are reading.

This week I am recommending the following....

Hansel and Gretel – Parents you could read from this link <https://www.shortkidstories.com/story/hansel-and-gretel/>

Our Older Children - Could you listen / watch the extract from The Lion The Witch and The Wardrobe  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k6qbJZ0Rz4o>

All reading at home will be awarded a Reading Raffle Ticket.

At the end of the half term the raffle will be drawn and they could win a

**Prize 1 = Family Just Eat Voucher. Prize 2 = £10 Book Voucher Prize 3 – Choice of Book / Magazine**



Finally, it is beginning to turn colder now as we head into Autumn.  
Do remember to send your child in with a coat for playtimes.



Thank You for your continued support. We are looking forward to a new school year and are excited about the curriculum we have planned! Please remember that we are here to support and you can contact Mrs Armstrong  
(Family Support – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday)

Thank you,

Mrs. Dodd and the team at Stepping Stones School