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Friday, 9th November 2018

Anti-Bullying Week – w/c 12th November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Once again, Green Ridge is taking part in national Anti-Bullying Week next week. 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 *Choose Respect*. It is organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and the aims of this week are to support schools and other settings to help children and young people, school staff, parents and other professionals who work with children to understand:

- The definition of respect
- That bullying is a behaviour choice
- That we can respectfully disagree with each other i.e. we don't have to be best friends or always agree with each other but we do have to respect each other
- That we all need to choose to respect each other both face to face and online.



To mark this important week in the school's calendar, the children will be having specific lessons and discussions about bullying: what it is, how you define it, what you can do about it, who to go to and how you can make a difference by telling somebody. This will also be our theme for assembly as well as part of our half-termly theme of 'friendship'.

What can you do to support us to stop bullying and participate in Anti-Bullying Week?

- Read the Anti-Bullying Alliance top tips for parents (attached with this letter). Talk to your child about bullying and Anti-Bullying Week.
- The Anti-Bullying Alliance have a free online tool to support parents to understand bullying and what to do if you're worried about it – you can access it at [here](#).
- Come and talk to us. We want to hear from you what is working well, and what we could do differently to help stop bullying.

One of the key messages we will be reinforcing within school is that bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally and how this is different to those isolated incidents between children where they may fall out with each other or are unkind to one another; these incidents are often a reaction to a single occurrence, rather than something that continues repeatedly over time for a specific reason.



As part of Anti-Bullying Week, on the first day, (Monday 12th November) we are joining many other schools across the country to hold an 'Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week'. Aimed at early years and primary school children, the day encourages young children to wear odd socks for the day, celebrating their uniqueness. Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity for children to express themselves and appreciate individuality. All they have to do to take part is wear odd socks to school, it couldn't be simpler!

Yesterday, with your child, you will have been sent home an anti-bullying leaflet, which gives you a great deal of information about what bullying is (and is not), how you can support your child and how you can reinforce key messages at home about ensuring your child tells an adult if bullying is happening.

Thank you for your continued support in this area – together, we can make a positive difference for our children.

Yours faithfully,

Handwritten signature of Mr. Aaron Wanford.

Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher