



Dear Parents,

Last year, at about this time, I wrote to you with an introduction to our Learning Values. This letter will provide you with an update on our progress so far:

What are Learning Values?

Learning Values are a set of skills or characteristics that enable everyone to become better learners. They are part of our drive to encourage and promote a 'Growth Mindset' in learners at Wellstead Primary School.

Why do we have Learning Values?

Over the last 18 months, we have evolved our original 'Wellstead Way' (the social values of being kind, thoughtful, sensible, helpful and polite) to also include 6 key learning values. We believe that all of these values will help children become better learners, instil a positive learning attitude and fulfil our 'Sowing the Seeds of Success' motto.

Underpinning the vision of Learning Values is the belief that everyone and anyone can improve at anything - provided effort is applied. It also emphasises strategies and techniques to use when learning becomes challenging.

Our progress so far...

For the academic year 2015-16, the Learning Values were introduced and focussed upon. Each half term, a new value was introduced and explained through assemblies and class time and children were supported and encouraged to show the value in their school day.

From September 2016, we have continued with the regular support and encouragement as before but with an additional themed day at the start of each half term. On these theme days, the children enjoy taking part in specifically designed activities that emphasise the need for the day's particular value.

A particular highlight of the year so far was the visit of Nicola Groves on Perseverance Day. Nicola, who competed in a sailing event at Rio 2016, spent the morning with us. She spoke in assembly about how much she trained, how she struggled to adapt to the different sailing events and the importance of perseverance. After that, she visited classes to answer questions and show her Olympic kit – including some very impressive light-up trainers!

We are hoping to invite more inspirational visitors into school for our future themed days. Please contact the school if you think you can help us with this.



These are our Learning Values:

Autumn

Collaboration	Perseverance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We say kind things to others • We notice when others are successful and tell them • We respect other people's views and ideas • We change so that a group will work well • We help everybody to achieve • We gain inspiration from other people's successes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We like challenges, puzzles and mysteries • We will keep going and not give up • We see mistakes as a chance to learn • We decide how to beat our challenges • We believe that more effort will pay off in the end.

Spring

Motivation	Curiosity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are ready to begin learning • We are determined to do well for ourselves • We have a 'can do' attitude • We look forward to learning new things • We choose to push ourselves out of our 'comfort zone.' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We ask questions – some might even be tricky to answer. • We wonder why and ask 'what if?' • We imagine different possibilities. • We explore different options. • We want to find out the answer even when the lesson has ended.

Summer

Thinking	Creativity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have lots of good ideas. • We make links to other learning. • We plan ahead and make good decisions. • We keep a check on how well our learning is going. • We keep calm and think clearly. • We ask for advice and use it to improve our learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We like trying different things. • We try different ways to achieve success. • We try different ways to solve a problem. • We are happy to try out new ideas. • We find out new ways to do things.



What's next for Learning Values at Wellstead Primary School?

The next stage of the journey for us is to further embed the six learning values into everything we do at school.

Aims

- Invite 'inspirational' visitors into school on our themed days.
- Involve parents and the wider community more, by sharing our learning from our themed days.

Kind regards,

Mr S. Cook
Learning Values Leader