

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

## **RE: Anti-bullying Week**

Anti-bullying Week 2021 is taking place from Monday 15th to Friday 19th November.

This year, the theme is **'One kind word'**. It is coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance which is based at the National Children's Bureau.

'Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, which intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally.' The Department for Education

The aim of this week is to support schools and other settings to help children and young people, school staff, parents and other professionals who work with children to understand that: -

- Bullying is a behaviour choice
- Bullying has a significant impact on a person's life.
- Together, we challenge bullying.
- Change starts with a conversation.
- Bullying can be verbal, physical, online or in-person.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance website provides information for parents and carers and for children. The NSPCC website also provides useful guidance in this area, see the website links below.

https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2021-one-kind-word https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/bullying-and-cyberbullying/

The NSPCC advice also reminds us that it is important children understand the difference between somebody saying something mean in a one-off situation, and bullying. They can distinguish this difference by using the acronym – **STOP** –**S**everal Times on Purpose.

We aim to take a positive stance with regard to bullying by reminding the children to speak up when dealing with bullying both in the real world and the ever-growing online world. To help raise awareness, on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021** we are asking the children and staff to take part in an **odd socks day**, where we all wear 2 different socks!

We will also have an assembly to introduce the week's theme and activities based around anti-bullying, which will take place throughout the week.

Many thanks,

Mrs Scudder Year 1 Teacher & PSHE Lead

Old Bexley CE Primary School Hillsgrove Primary School St Paulinus CE Primary School Holy Trinity Lamorbey CE Primary St Paul's Cray CE Primary School Castilion Primary School

