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Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October

Dear Parents and carers of Holy Trinity Lamorbey,

My name is **Freddie Merritt** and I am now in Year 5 at Holy Trinity. I would like to tell you a bit about myself to raise awareness of my condition and help make this school the most positive place possible.

I was born with a form of skeletal dysplasia called 'Achondroplasia', which restricts the growth of my bones and so makes me shorter than my classmates. You might have noticed that my arms, legs and head especially are a bit different. This causes various health issues but essentially, I am the same as all of my friends. I can do the same things as everyone else, just in a different way and I'm just as clever as them too! I will ask for help if I need it but I am pretty determined and can do a lot more than you might realise. Please also help your children to know which words are kind when talking about me. It is unkind to call me baby, I am just shorter than average. The word 'midget' is old-fashioned and should never be used to describe a person. Although some people who are small do describe themselves as a 'dwarf', I don't. **I am just Freddie.**



You may already know that October is Dwarfism Awareness month. We are doing an awareness day on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October** called "**Dare to be Different Day**" (see my poster overleaf). The event will raise **awareness** for the RGA: Restricted Growth Association who are an amazing charity that offers support to children of restricted growth and their families but I would like all the donations to go towards HTL PTA making a difference for everyone at our school.

If you or your children see me in the playground please give me a smile and if you would like to know more about my condition don't hesitate to drop me an email at [monica.merritt@ymail.com](mailto:monica.merritt@ymail.com) (my mummy will respond as I am very busy!). You can also visit the Restricted Growth Association website for more information ([www.rgauk.org](http://www.rgauk.org)).

Thank you so much for your help,

Love from Freddie x

With the full support of all of the staff at HTL

*"The only thing the same about us all is that we are all different"*

*Transforming lives. Building futures.*

# To celebrate Dwarfism Awareness month please join us to celebrate...



**PTA PTA**  
Holy Trinity Lamorbey CE Primary School

**ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO TO R.G.A**

**DARE TO BE DIFFERENT DAY!**

**50P PER DARE!  
£2 FOR ALL DARES!**

**FRIDAY 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**Dares: Will you...**

- Wear something green?
- Wear a temporary tattoo?
- Wear odd socks?
- Have crazy hair?
- Wear a hat?
- Wear a superhero cape?
- Wear jeans?

*Transforming lives. Building futures.*