



## Article of the Month.



The Rights Ambassadors chose Article 26 because at this time of the year, with Christmas just passed, lots of families can find themselves with money worries. In today's society, people can often feel pressurised to take out loans in order to get through the Christmas period. With such high interest rates on some of these loans, life can become a real struggle for some families.

We all agree that **children affected by poverty** should be helped by the government.

Reporters: Daniel Fenlon & Keil Walcott (assisted by Mrs Maclean).

## Pause for Thought...

St Paschal Baylon have been learning about children's rights for two years now. However, do you know where these rights come from?

Mrs Ashton asked a number of children around the school this question—and the response were rather surprising, as some pupils did not know the answer! So here is what you need to know...



The **United Nations Human Rights Commission group** started to work on the draft of the **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)** in the 1950s. However, it was not until 30 years later (in 1989) that work on the CRC was completed and the Convention was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.

Today, all countries in the world, except the USA, have signed up to this convention.

So remember the answer! Children's rights come from:

## The Convention on the Rights of the Child.



### Our Rights

In 1989, governments across the world promised all children the same rights by adopting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention says what countries must do so that all children grow as healthy as possible, can learn at school, are protected, have their views listened to, and are treated fairly.

These are our rights.



## REaction Group Update ...

Since the beginning of the school year, REaction group have met every week to consider and discuss ways in which they can help to make a difference in our society.

So far, the children, along with Miss Nolan and Mrs Kelly, have looked at the uneven distribution of wealth, especially amongst Third World countries.

Year 3 and 4 members created a visual display in the dining hall highlighting the plight of children who have to work in gold mines instead of going to school (Article 32 - Governments must protect children from work that is dangerous or might harm their health or education).

Another topic the children felt strongly about was the plight of homeless people in our city. This subject was discussed in detail taking into account the thoughts of Pope Francis. **Ava Hanlon** (Year 4) described what they have been involved in so far:

*"In REaction group we have helped lots of homeless people. We talked about how we would feel if we were in their position. Some children said that they would feel lonely, cold, scared, tired and hungry. Others said they feel sorry for them as they have no food, no water, no friends, and only a blanket or a sleeping bag to keep warm."*

REaction then decided how they could help make a difference. **Erin Gardner** (Year 5) describes here what they did:

*"One Sunday we read out an appeal at all masses in Christ the King Church. We asked the parish community to donate unwanted hats, scarves and gloves to help the people living on the streets to keep warm during the winter."*



Hundreds of warm items were donated and then a way to distribute them had to be found. Ava said: *"In November Mrs Carol Turner from Papercup (a homeless charity) came to visit Reaction. She described how she and other volunteers gather in the city centre every Monday evening. They then go out meeting people sleeping on the streets and give out food, drinks, and warm clothing. She was absolutely delighted with the items that we had collected and said that she would take them with her to be given out."*

After hearing some of the sad stories that Mrs Turner told the group, the children thought of another way to help. Erin said:

*"Three girls from REaction organised a raffle. All the money is going to Papercup to help them to buy containers, hot drinks, food and other items. At the Christmas Fayre we sold bags of sweets which we had helped to make, and the proceeds will also go to Papercup."*

Not only have REaction helped in a practical way, but they have spent some time praying for homeless people,

*"We pray that God will look after them, and we have written prayers that have been displayed in Year 5 and Year 6 classrooms, we also read quotations from Pope Francis"* said Erin.

Due to Miss Nolan's involvement in the parish Millennium group, REaction once again **'went into action'**: Ava describes what they did.

*"We helped the Millennium group by selling all different types of cakes. There were cup cakes, Eccles cakes, lemon cakes and a lovely big chocolate cake. The sale was in church and over £100 was raised!"*

Altogether a busy term for our REaction group members, and they are not stopping there as there are so many other issues to be involved in to help make a difference.

SPB  
SUPPORTS  
SUSTAINABILITY!



## What is Sustainable Development?

When something is sustainable, it means you are able to continue it over a long period of time. It causes little or no damage to the environment and, therefore, makes the world a better place without destroying it for future generations. World leaders have agreed to support the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda to mobilise efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change.

*"Preservation of the environment, promotion of sustainable development and particular attention to climate change are matters of grave concern for the entire human family."*

Pope Benedict XVI

The Rights Ambassadors will be writing a song about the Sustainable Development Goals this half term! Watch this space!



## How will SPB support sustainable Development?

Over the next few months, children will be learning about the Sustainable Development Goals. We are also part of a 'Wider Perspectives' project and students from Liverpool Hope University will be delivering sessions to the children about sustainability in other countries. We are excited to announce that, during Lent, our school will be supporting the 'Send a Cow' charity. We aim to raise £650 to buy a cow for a family in Africa. Children will see how this can make a huge difference! A cow produces milk and manure, the manure is then used to grow vegetables. The family can drink the milk and eat the vegetables and also sell their produce at the market. The money raised can then pay for school fees. By providing a family with a cow, we are supporting sustainable development and helping children get their rights to nutritious food (Article 24) and an education (Article 28).

## Competition Time!

Miss Horton has asked children to think of some fun and exciting cow themed ideas to fund raise during Lent. Please write down and give your ideas to Miss Horton and she will choose the best one!



At St Paschal Baylon, we are creating  
Global Citizens...



St Paschal Baylon  
Catholic Primary School  
Following In The Footsteps Of Christ

Do you know all the groups in our school  
that are linked to children's rights?

Reaction

Eco Warriors

YOUR WORLD  
NEEDS  
YOU

Rights Ambassadors

Campaign Group

BECAUSE  
**EVERY CHILD**  
IN THE WORLD  
HAS ONE THING  
IN COMMON.  
**THEIR RIGHTS.**

School Council