



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

December



2018: Issue 22



ST PASCHAL BAYLON CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

RRS Monthly



# We Are A Gold Rights Respecting

Last Thursday (6th December) the whole school, in a celebration assembly, were informed that we have become the **first** and **only** school in Liverpool to achieve the **Gold Rights Respecting Schools Award**.

During the assembly, the children were reminded of our three-year Rights Respecting journey. This issue, therefore, will be dedicated to that journey so that parents and carers can also celebrate with us..

A big *thank you* goes to all the children, parents, grandparents, governors and staff who have helped us along the way.

## The Journey...



We applied to become a RRS in December 2015 and started working towards the **Bronze Award** in January 2016. We achieved this in **May 2016**.

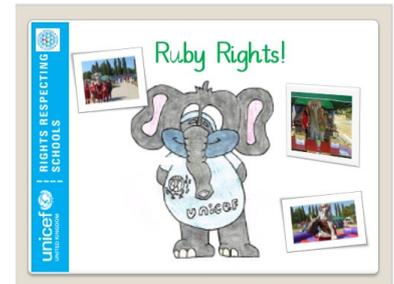
After Receiving the Bronze Award, we worked towards achieving Silver, and on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2017, we welcomed a lady from UNICEF to our school and showed her all the good work we were doing for children's rights. She was very impressed and we achieved the **Silver award**. However, the work didn't stop there. Throughout our journey, more pupils, adults and ideas were popped into the mix, so that children's rights became a big part of our school.





In June 2016, we created issue 1 of the Rights Respecting School Monthly. This month's issue will be **Issue 22!!!**

In issue 2 of the Rights Respecting School Monthly, there was a competition to design a mascot.



The winner was Gracie Usher (now in senior school) who created **Ruby Rights**. Ruby is now a familiar sight around our school.



Around the end of 2016, Mr Gowans and a team of pupils started an environment group, which went on to become known as the Eco Warriors..

**Tom Jennings-Smith** was the winner of a poster competition to spread the message about the importance of recycling and the damage to our environment caused by litter.



Being a person who really cares for children, Mr Gowans also decided to sign up with UNICEF to campaign about issues that effect youngsters around the world. The first campaign was to promote the plight of refugee children who were separated from their parents.

The most recent campaign is our current focus on air pollution around the world. Being a campaigning school means we don't just learn about these issues, we actively do something about them, such as send tweets, communicate with our local MP and even send messages to the government in Downing Street.

Another competition created another mascot. In February 2018, **Gertie Goals** became the mascot for the sustainable development focus.

The creator, and winner of this competition, was **Nancy Rowe**, who is now in Year 1. The idea was inspired by the 'Send A Cow' appeal which SPB raised money for. Recently, the sustainable development team decided on a name change and became **The Sustainable Soldiers**.



And it didn't stop there! Miss Horton and the team decided that they would create a song, in order for the important message of sustainable development to be heard. They wrote the lyrics to the song, and then the mum of **Penelope Hulme** (currently in Year 1) composed the music.

When Mrs Ellams came to our school in October, she was so impressed she asked Miss Horton to video it so she could show it at the UNICEF annual meeting in November. Who knows what the future holds for that song and for our school!





In September 2017, Miss Nolan and Mrs Kelly – our governors who led the Prayer Group - decided that a new name was needed to reflect the role that **this** team play in thinking about, and helping, others around the world.

They decided on the name **ReAction** as it linked the Catholic Christian ethos of our school, to the importance of making a difference within the local and global community.

Over time, they have collected food for the Food Bank, helped the homeless, discussed the plight of children in African schools with Sister Eleanor, welcomed visitors from a range of helping organisations, and even stood up in Christ the King Church to encourage others to help.

An aspect of being a Rights Respecting School that has been present in St Paschal Baylon for many years is democracy.

Democracy means giving people the right to have a say in all matters concerning them. In our school, Mrs Severs co-ordinates the School Council elections every September. Those elected then pass on the views of the pupils to the adults in the school.

In the past, School Councillors have introduced a St Paschal Baylon tracksuit; water coolers in the corridors, healthy snacks at break time, and many more ideas to make our school an even better place to work and play.

We also participate in debates at Liverpool Town Hall with other Liverpool schools.

Over the years, we have had a number of our Year 6 councillors elected as a Liverpool Junior Lord Mayor. This year, it was **Harriet Kenyon** who became our latest representative. Well done, Harriet!



The Baylon Buddies are another group who have been a part of our school for many years. They can be recognised by their bright yellow bibs. They make sure that children access article 31: children have the right to relax and play; and article 15: every child has the right to meet with other children and to join groups.

They also promote National Anti-Bullying Week, each year, in order to let the pupils of our school know that they can talk to someone if they are unhappy coming to school.

For two years now, our school has supported UNICEF's Soccer Aid Primary School Challenge.

This was led by Miss Weeder and involved the whole school getting out and dribbling footballs around an obstacle course.

All money raised was then sent to UNICEF to help them help children in the UK and around the world.





About 8 weeks ago, we again welcomed Mrs Ellams into our school. This time she was here, not to assess us for the silver award, but to see if we deserved to be a **Gold** Rights Respecting School.

The visit lasted a whole morning, during which time our visitor looked around our school, spoke to pupils in classrooms, and then later interviewed groups of children, parents, governors, staff and the leadership team (as well as listening to the Sustainable Now! song, as mentioned earlier). A big 'thank you' to all who contributed on the day.

So you see – a lot goes on to make our school **Rights Respecting**— and a lot of adults and children actively contribute to making it a big part of who we are at SPB.

# Congratulations SPB!



Finally, all that's left to say is that we wish all our families **a very happy and holy Christmas!** We hope the children enjoy their time off and come back refreshed in order to continue to be active global citizens.

