

Inspirational People - 17/12/2020

We all need inspirational people in our lives.

Our curriculum has a theme that runs throughout it, where the children learn about inspirational people, linked to the unit of work they are studying. This term, children have learned about many people, from many countries of the world; some living and some from history; some male and some female; some young and some old.

In our assemblies, we have a strand of work based on inspirational people who are good role models to us all. This term, we've learned about Valentina Tereshkova, Lewis Hamilton, JK Rowling, Captain Sir Tom Moore, Maggie Aderin Pocock and many, many more.

But this year - more than at any other time in our history - we have become aware that we are surrounded by inspirational people. Our world is full of them. Our town is filled with role models. Our school community is made up of inspirational people, making a huge difference every day.

Amongst our school community we have frontline key workers who have worked tirelessly this year to provide education, social care, health care and goods and services to us all. This has not been easy; it has been relentlessly demanding, exhausting and, at times, worrying. But those key workers have been there for us all; putting aside their own difficulties and concerns, to ensure that we, as a community, made it through such a difficult time.

Being a parent this year has not been easy. You've had to make decisions about when was the right time for your child to return to school. You had to be up-to-date with the latest rules and regulations around COVID, be alert for symptoms and manage your household under the most difficult of circumstances. Aside from all the adult concerns you may have had, you have also dealt with your children's concerns and anxieties; helping them to make sense of a world you didn't understand yourself.

We have all felt tired, anxious and overwhelmed. A phrase I've used often this year, when trying to provide support or comfort to a parent or child, is one I borrowed from a parent who told me, 'The world is simply too much at the moment'. We've all felt that at some point this year.

But throughout it all, we've been surrounded by inspirational people, who have helped us to get to the end of 2020.

I'm privileged to spend my days surrounded by the most inspirational people of all - the children. They have taken 2020 in their stride. They've put aside their worries and anxieties. They've learned a new set of rules to live by. They've treated others with respect, kindness and compassion. Throughout it all, they've continued to learn - often in new ways! Our latest assessments show that the children continue to make excellent progress and are bouncing back from a disrupted education this year.

Most inspirational of all, is the way in which they continue to find joy and wonder in the world. They smile often and fill our school with laughter every single day. So, as we approach the end of 2020, we should look to our children and follow their example.

I'd like to thank you all for your support during this year and would like to wish you - on behalf of the entire staff of the school - a safe and happy Christmas.

Vicki