

Character Education - Citizenship



At the beginning of the Summer term, the children were introduced to our fifth character trait, 'citizenship.' The children listened to the story of Greta Thunberg by Isabel Sanchez Vegara. The story follows climate activist Greta Thunberg, who from a young age spoke about her anger at how humans treated the world, suggesting ways in which we can all be global citizens and care for our environment. Greta's voice starts small, yet over time more and more individuals listen and respect what she has to say. It is then that she becomes a global figurehead for speaking on the dangers of climate change, supporting global governments and companies in making better choices to support our world. The story celebrates citizenship and the small changes all of us can make to help better improve our world.

During the assembly, we discussed the meaning of citizenship: **work with others to make positive differences in the society we live in.** We agreed that citizenship is when we all try our best to help our society and work together to look after our environment. We delved further into thinking about the impact our actions have on the world and all acknowledged the importance of being able to look after our home environment **and** our school environment and treat it with respect.

Together, we recognised that showing citizenship in small ways will make a big difference. We discussed how we could support our home and school environments, such as turning off the taps when not using water, picking up litter that we see has been left on the ground and using a car less frequently to reduce carbon emissions.

In the following assembly, the children discussed moral dilemmas, offering advice to others on how to be global citizens. The children offered advice to different children on how they can support their local community and how making small changes to their routine will help the wider community and their local environment. This term, we will all be taking part in volunteering as part of our Widening Horizons work, which has also been encouraged by The Big Help Out, through the King's Coronation. More information can be found here:

<https://thebighelpout.org.uk/>

Spending our time volunteering this term, will make a positive difference to our local community and support us with continuing to be respectful, good citizens.



How to support at home

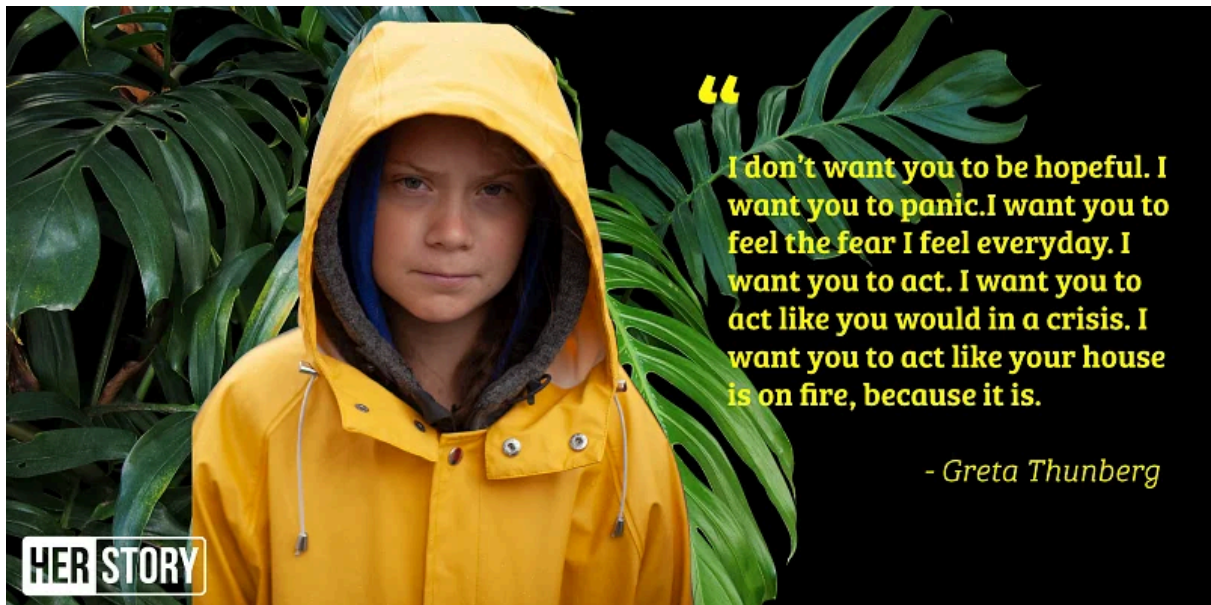
Littering: Teach children where to place rubbish in their home and in public. Talk about the pride you feel when your town or city is neat and clean. Take your child on a walk and carry a rubbish bag to dispose of rubbish you might find. Discuss the fact that dropping litter is damaging towards our environment.

Working in the public service: Teach your child about those who work for our society, teachers, nurses, doctors, civil servants, those who work for the fire and emergency services. Discuss the job that these individuals do and how this positively impacts our society. Ask your child, what career would you like to have when you are older and will it positively impact society? If so, how?

Volunteering: As part of our Widening Horizons project this term, all year groups will be volunteering their time to help those in our wider community. Speak to your children and your community through visiting parks, recreation areas, local stores and neighbouring areas. Your child will learn that the world is bigger than their home and that they have a connection to the outside world.

Laws: Discuss the reason for laws in society and how following these help our society and make us good citizens. Discuss any rules you may have at home, at school, at clubs and other places. Children need to learn that the entire world has a set of rules and that rules help keep us safe.

Watch: Watching Newsround is a brilliant way to discuss world topics and current affairs in a manageable, child-speak format. Encourage your child to watch this daily on www.bbc.co.uk/newsround, or allow them to time to read newspaper articles to ignite and spark discussion and topical debates on the world around us.



See below books which explore, 'citizenship.'

