

# ST CLARE'S ABBEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



## Our Rights Respecting Newsletter

### Newsletter No 1: Spring 2019

Welcome to the first termly St. Clare's Abbey's RRSA Newsletter. Having achieved the Bronze: Rights Committed Award, we are pleased to be embarking on our journey to the Silver Rights Aware Award and becoming '**BRILLIANT RIGHTS RESPECTING CITIZENS**'. We hope you enjoy our first newsletter which has been prepared by our Rights Respecting Steering Group.

#### Rights Respecting Steering Group

We have a brilliant steering group who help to share their ideas, thoughts and concerns about how we respect each other's rights at St. Clare's Abbey. The children range from P4-P7.



**unicef**

#### **Rights Respecting Steering Group**

In St Clare's Abbey Primary School, we, The Rights Respecting Steering Group, visited all the classes to check what each pupil had in their lunchboxes. When we had finished examining our lunchboxes;

**96.4 %**

**of our pupils had good/healthy lunchboxes.** This shows we are living out **Article 24** of the UN Convention of 'The Rights of The Child' - 'You have the right to the best healthcare possible, nutritious food and safe water to drink'.



By Ethan Murphy P7

#### **Mascot**

One of the first undertakings of our Steering Group was to create a mascot. We wanted a mascot that would draw the interest and ignite the curiosity of all the staff, parents and most importantly the pupils.

Our mascot had to be child friendly, had to impress the pupils, have the ability to communicate the Articles and generate positivity.

A sub-committee made up with pupil members of the Steering Group and led by Mrs Sloan worked on this challenge.

After a number of sessions they came up with our mascot, 'Pop the Peacock'...



**Our mascot is dotted throughout the school to remind children and staff of our Rights Respecting morals on a daily basis.**



All around school, class charters have been popping up in classrooms (example below). The aim of the charters is for the children to decide which rights they feel are most important to them in school and to decide how they and duty-bearers (the adults) can make sure these rights are being met. What followed on from this was a Charter for the school.



### Article 1

Everyone under 18 has these rights.  
The You tube video below is one that all the children will enjoy.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J\\_0LhcSDUA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J_0LhcSDUA)

### What's happening next?

We are working towards our silver award. This will involve assessors coming into school to speak with children on their understanding of the rights. Please continue to talk to your children on the 'Individual Rights' we send home each week by 'school app' so children understand their meaning and can relate to these daily.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is linked closely to the work of Trocaire.

Children have the right to food, to shelter, to education, to freedom from war, to practise their own culture and religion and to be protected from harm.

Trocaire have directly benefitted 688,000 people in their right to land and water.

Trocaire also work to force governments in poor countries to act fairly for all people.

Trocaire have helped local people work with the Government to change the law, so that their food is protected.

Trocaire work with women and men in poor countries to demand equal rights for women and children. By Eadaoin Brennan

### Rights Respecting Steering Group / UNICEF Shoe Box Appeal - Homeless Charity



By Ethan Murphy and Ailsa McEnhill

The UNICEF RIGHTS RESPECTING STEERING GROUP are telling us all to live out all our rights, for example in 'Article 27 - You have the right to food, clothing, a safe place to live and to have your basic needs met. You should not be disadvantaged, so that you cannot do many of the things other kids can do'. Some people are not able to live out their rights, like homeless people, people living in countries at war and people who are living in poverty.

In December 2018, the Rights Respecting Steering Group had decided to bring forth the shoe-box appeal in our school. We invited everyone from P1 to P7 to take part and bring an item or items to school to put in shoe boxes.

Our school did very well by giving 170 shoe boxes to the homeless with the help of NEWRY HELPING THE HOMELESS. The shoe boxes contained items like biscuits, crisps, soft drinks, sweets, hygiene products and clothing.



### By Aoife McKevitt - Article 38 - You have the right to protection and freedom from war.

