



Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Bishops Down Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs C Owen

24th May 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Disability Awareness Week – 19th June 2017

As part of our local charity link with Pepenbury this year we are holding our Disability Awareness week in June – on the week beginning the 19th. It is a national 'Learning Disability Awareness Week' – and to link with this we will hold our own Disability Awareness Week, with activities in class linked to raising awareness of disability. These will include looking at a range of disabilities including social communication difficulties, autism, speech and language difficulties, physical disabilities, hearing impairment, visual impairment and learning difficulties including specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia and dyspraxia.

This is our second disability awareness event this academic year – we held a one day event in October. As it is National Learning Disability Awareness week and Pepenbury are our local charity this year, we did want to mark it with the school community and use it as another opportunity to explore disability within our school and wider community.

Pepenbury will be leading the assembly on Monday 19th June and working closely with us during the week. Many of their service users, adults with learning disabilities, experience bullying in the community and this is an area we hope the children from Bishops Down will be able to influence in the future as a result of this awareness raising we do in school.

Year 5 have recently been fundraising for Pepenbury as part of their RE topic. Redwood will be supporting the fundraising for this disability awareness week in school. On Wednesday 21st June we are asking children and staff to wear '**Purple or Pyjamas**' for Pepenbury – and bring a small donation. We are hoping to support Pepenbury to raise enough money to buy new assistive technology for some of their young adults, including equipment such as eye gaze technology that allows adults to communicate if they cannot use their voice.

Children will have lessons as normal this week but each day will have a section of time allocated to exploring an aspect of disability; including a short whole class '*orienteering type*' activity on Friday 23rd June where the children locate the words 'we are all unique' hidden in the outside areas of school and unscramble the letters.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Adams
SENCo