



THE DOWNLEY SCHOOL
"Learning, Growing and Succeeding Together"

4th November 2013

Dear Parents/Carers

Our value for November is **Courage**.

There is huge potential to cover this value in many different ways. The staff and children discussed which values to study in which month and chose Courage for November as Remembrance Sunday and Anti Bullying Week fall in this month.

As always, the introductory assembly is on the school website (www.downley.bucks.sch.uk). Please take a few minutes to look at the assembly. It shows 'famous' people who the children may have heard of who have changed the world through their bravery and also 'ordinary' children who have broken through fear and difficulties with their bravery in their everyday lives. We hope that you will be able to use the assembly as a starting point to help you to engage with your child and support their learning in school. There is a 'Values Based Education' section on the website, under the 'Our School' heading where you can access all of the values assemblies and newsletters should you wish to revisit any of the themes.

For the month of November, 'Person of Courage' certificates will be awarded to people who have shown courage and have been nominated by three people.

The act of courage may be at school. It may reinforce the 'Anti Bullying' message that is promoted at all times, ie, children are very much encouraged to tell an adult if they are being bothered by another child. However, they are always fearful of making the situation worse if they do. There is a zero tolerance attitude to bullying at TDS and once we are aware of problems, they are dealt with very effectively. However, children often need courage to tell an adult of their worries.

The act of courage may be at home. Parents and other family members are very much encouraged to nominate their child – or indeed receive nominations themselves.

It will be wonderful to hear stories of Courage throughout this month.

With very best wishes

S Webb

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