

## **TOR BRIDGE HIGH BOOK WEEK 2021 – Kindness Theme**

Tor Bridge High School decided to use Kindness as its theme for its Book Week 2021 celebrations and activities.

The Kindness initiative took many forms across Tor Bridge High and across all year groups. Whilst it was launched as an initiative to link with the School's Book Week 2021, we plan to ensure the theme of Kindness is continued throughout the year, including it in our return-to-school mantra 'Work hard, be kind, love learning'.

During our Book Week 2021 celebrations, Tor Bridge High set five challenges for students to undertake at home during the latest lockdown period:

- Poetry writing based on the theme of kindness,
- Get Wordy – how many different words can be made out of the phrase 'kindness is contagious'
- Get Creative – making kindness posters to display at home
- Undertaking a random act of kindness
- Making a kindness pledge

All English lessons across the School on World Book Day (Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March) were also reading/kindness themed. The Library created a kindness booklist of texts to promote kindness and empathy. There was also a display created of some of the entries to the various competitions (see photos). Every day during book week, students were invited to listen to a different member of staff introducing a book and reading the first chapter aloud. These books were chosen from the kindness booklist.

In addition, the Art department delivered Kindness Art lessons all week whereby students across the year groups were invited to consider kindness graffiti (inspired by the kindnessUK resource pack for secondary schools). They were then asked to create their own art work. Students also created kindness posters for their windows at home, thanking whoever they wanted. Some of the posters are now displayed around the School to spread the message of kindness to all our students. During their Art lessons, students were also asked to create a kindness note template. These templates will be used throughout the academic year to be left in random school library books. The notes will include both the student art work and a positive/kind message to the finder.

Next, the students who attended educare during the lockdown period were able to enjoy various enrichment activities relating to our kindness theme. These included:

- Connect: A letter writing activity to spread kindness to a friend or family member.
- Be active: be kind to yourself by taking part in yoga or pilates etc.
- Keep learning: research and plan a meal so you can cook it at home for the family.
- Give to others: paint a kindness stone to be left in the local area or around school for others to find.
- Take notice: the student's own positive attributes and/or gratefulness activity.

What is more, Tor Bridge High promotes weekly Fun Friday Challenges for staff and students. During Book Week and Kindness Week, the Fun Friday Challenge was for staff and students to undertake a Random Act of Kindness. Examples of student activities included:

- Made bread for their mum,
- Made their dad a cup of tea whilst he was on a business meeting call,
- Did their nan's gardening,

- Cleaned the house for their mum,
- Helped their younger brother/sister with their home-learning,
- Local community litter pick,
- Read and played with younger siblings whilst their mum worked from home,
- Washed his dad's bike,
- Took flowers to their neighbour as a gift,
- Beach clean-up,
- Made a cake for the family.

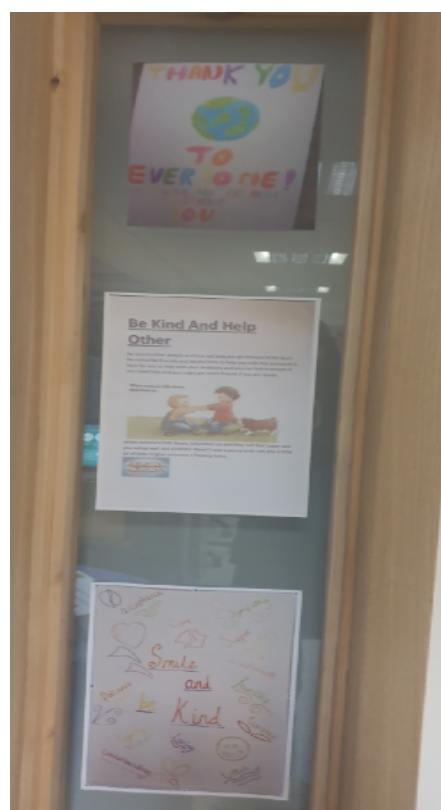
Finally, as part of our school commitment to promoting learning and supporting our students an act of kindness also included providing every one of our students with a free world book day book. We liaised with a bookstore to have the books available in school rather than students just being given a WBD voucher. This ensured every student received an actual book during this difficult time of not being able to visit shops. Furthermore, Tor Bridge High also provided free WBD books to the other three schools on our campus (the primary, the special school and the nursery) – enabling, in total over 2,000 children to enjoy a free book.

The Tor Bridge High Library will continue to incorporate kindness into its plans and activities by hosting Empathy week in June 2021 and ensuring that it regularly reviews its book stock to hold books which promote kindness and empathy.

On a wider scale each school within Tor Bridge High chooses a local charity with which to support each year via various mufti days in addition to the usual charity collections for Red Nose Day, Children in Need etc.a

On a regular basis the school undertakes partnership work with the other schools on campus ensuring that kindness, understanding and acceptance is part of our daily routines. Previous examples of this activity have included: reading stories to younger children, supporting the younger children during library based activities, drama performances to the other schools, joint art and charity work for the local St Luke's Hospice Elmer Project and so much more.

Library window display



Kindness Book Display

