Tuesday 23rd March 2021

World Autism Awareness Week – 29th March to 4th April

Dear Parents / Carers,

At least 1 in every 100 school children in the UK are autistic and without the right support, school can be a very confusing and difficult place to be. While children with Autism can face many challenges such as communication difficulties, repetitive behaviours, difficulties with change and sensory issues, they also possess many strengths and are capable of developing their uniqueness to live full lives and achieve incredible things alongside their peers.

Next week is World Autism Awareness Week and as a school we would like to join in by having a day that celebrates the similarities and differences in all of us. We would like to ask that on Tuesday 30th March, children come to school wearing silly, jazzy or odd socks to recognise the true uniqueness of us all.

While we feel strongly about the importance of raising awareness and understanding of Autism, many families would find it difficult to cope following a diagnosis of autism without the support of people who truly understand what that means. This support often comes from charities.

Autism West Midlands is a charity organisation that provides support to families and young people across the West Midlands as well as providing vital training for the people who work closely with them. If you are able, we ask that children bring a voluntary donation of any amount to hand to their class teacher or you can donate online via the Autism West Midlands fundraising page [https://www.justgiving.com/autismwestmidlands](https://www.justgiving.com/autismwestmidlands).

We look forward to seeing all the children in their wacky socks on Tuesday and thank in advance for your support.

Yours Sincerely,

Phillipa Chester
SENCO