



## Rights Respecting School Award

18.5.2018

This week's Article focusses:

- Article 2 (non-discrimination) - the convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.
- Article 14 (freedom of thought, belief and religion) - every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents to guide their child as they grow up.
- Article 30 (children from minority or indigenous groups) - every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

This week in assembly followed on from the whole school's exploration of culture. To celebrate the diversity of children in our school, some children from Year 5 spoke in assembly to share stories and traditions from countries that either they, or their families are from. Gustavs spoke about the fact that Latvian people celebrate 'Name Day' as well as having a birthday. Marcus shared a story about how people in Bulgari say yes and no differently and Lana talked about how they celebrate Easter in Poland. It was lovely to see the children talk with animation about their different cultures and backgrounds and allowed the rest of the school the opportunity to further appreciate and respect our differences.

Also this week, Father Matthew came in to speak to the children about Peace. He spoke to the children about ambassadors for peace throughout history, making reference to Mother Therese, Ghandi, Martin Luther King and more recently Malala. The assembly allowed the children to recognise how there are places around the world where children aren't having their rights met, including their right to an education. Additionally, the children were able to recognise how their rights have been fought for across history and the importance of respecting one another in order to ensure that there is peace.