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INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

Our Pupils have played a key part in the creation of the learning environment at Smarden Primary School and the direction we have taken as a school.   A love of learning is visually shown by our pupils.  We teach children that they have a choice and that they can 'choose' to make a difference, both to their life and to the lives of others.

Our children have a voice and through the School Council have made a really difference to the school.

Here are some of the ways our pupils have demonstrated their individual Liberty this year:

* We can choose to join an after-school club, like Football, Cookery, Singing or Fitness Mash Up.
* Our School Council are helping shape the future of the school
* We are able to choose the right level of work in some lessons.
* We wrote our Class Rules.
* We ask to raise money for charities.
* We have the freedom to believe in what we want.
* We work closely with the community to build links and relationships

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THE RULE OF LAW

The pupils at our school will encounter rules and laws throughout their entire lives. At Smarden, we want our pupils to understand that whether these rules and laws are leading their class, the school, their neighbourhood or the country, they are set for good reasons and must be adhered to.  We want pupils to learn the difference between right and wrong and how to make judgements about their own actions.

Understanding the importance of rules will be consistently reinforced through assemblies and our curriculum

Here are a few of the ways we have been learning about the Rule of Law at Smarden:

* Year 5/6 investigated crime - they even went to Parliament.
* We developed our Class rules
* The School Council work alongside FOSP and Mrs Miller to resolve school time issues
* We understand the consequences of breaking rules and laws.
* We learn about laws in other countries in assemblies.
* We discuss the reasons why we have laws in our assemblies.
* Our behaviour rules teach us about right and wrong.

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DEMOCRACY

Pupils at Smarden Primary Academy are involved in leadership roles across the school; often voted in to these positions, pupils are able to lead as School Councillors, offering a voice for the pupils, they vote for their Eco Team representatives.

We feel that democracy can be taught throughout our curriculum and throughout the life of the school.  In assemblies we learn about the wider aspects of democracy and how this impacts on our daily lives.

Elections and debates form a part of our learning and children are keen to be fully involved and want their learning to develop and grow.

Below are a few of the ways our pupils demonstrate their learning about Democracy:

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* We help decide which charities we raise money for.
* We help to develop school policies like our behaviour policy and the values of our school.
* We vote for our School Council Representatives.
* We ask our School Council to discuss issues we think are important.
* We have a say in what happens in our school.
* We have learnt about raising money for charity and how the Government has helped us with this.
* We learnt about General Elections and the work of the Government through our assemblies.
* We learnt about Women’s rights and the rights to vote.

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MUTUAL RESPECT

Mutual respect is at the heart of everything we do at Smarden.  It can been seen in all we do, in how pupils conduct themselves and in the relationships between staff and pupils.  We support pupils with this aspect through role modelling and within our everyday life in the school.  Assemblies, school awards and our policies support pupils with their understanding and allow pupils to develop their own personal ethos towards their learning and towards others.

Our school vision, values and motto create an ethos for mutual respect and tolerance.

Here are just a few of the ways our Pupils demonstrate their understanding of mutual respect:

* We learn about respecting our local environment and keeping our Village clean and tidy.
* We completed the Village ‘litter pick'.
* We wrote to businesses asking them to pledge an effort to reduce plastic.
* We raised money to support the Children in Need and Red Nose Day
* We work together to help one another in class and around the school.
* In assemblies, we learn about respecting each other.
* We celebrate our achievements every Friday in our Celebration assembly.
* We always make visitors feel welcome in our school.
* We learn about kindness and respecting each other in our annual Anti-Bullying Week.
* We learn about being kind and being a good friend in assemblies.
* We learn about being respectful on-line.
* The children often lead assembly on Remembrance Day.
* We learnt about encouraging others in assembly.
* In assembly we thought about helping those with disabilities and asking if the person wants our help.

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TOLERANCE OF OTHERS

Our Smarden curriculum which encompasses our RE teaching and Learning Journey themes, allows us to offer learning which is culturally rich and diverse and in which major religions are studied and respected.  Through our curriculum and daily school life, we aim to support our pupils in developing an understanding that we live in a diverse world.

Our pupils understand that people have different faiths and beliefs and that this allows us to ask interesting questions and to develop our knowledge further.    Through their time at Smarden, we support our pupils to become knowledgeable and understanding citizens of our future Britain.

Pupils demonstrate this value though many aspects of their daily lives and time at our school, listed below are a few examples:

* We celebrate World Religion Day.
* We hold our annual Carol and Easter Concert at St Michael’s.
* We learn about different places of worship in RE and assemblies.
* We learn about different celebrations in different faiths and cultures.
* We learn about Chinese New Year and other festivals in assemblies.
* We learn about our world using the Olympics or Sports competitions to help us.
* We learn about how people are all different and all special.
* We celebrate languages and learn words, phrases and songs from across the World.
* We listen to stories and music from lots of different cultures.
* We celebrated Harvest each year, learning songs to help us celebrate.