

## Our Values Day on Communication

A huge thank you to everyone who gave up their time to come and spend the morning with us on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. It was fantastic to see so many of you there. We hope that you found it very useful to see the children being taught how to be effective communicators in all areas of the curriculum. Good communication skills help us to solve problems successfully and maintain good interpersonal relationships. This is as true for young children as it is for adults. We are sure that you saw many examples of speaking and listening activities, drama, green pen work in response to feedback from the class teacher and high quality questioning from both children and adults alike.

There was also an opportunity for parents to learn more about how teachers and teaching assistants feedback to pupils about their learning both orally and in writing. The school's marking and feedback policy was shared (this is available to view on the school's website) and Jo explained how this works in practice.



### Ways to support your child to become an effective communicator at home

- Model being an effective communicator (demonstrate what it means to be an active listener, modelling good manners during conversation, eye contact)
- Making time for talk (this could be at dinner time around the table or on the journey home from school)
- Use open ended questions to encourage your child to expand on and develop their ideas and thinking
- Correct a child's use of incorrect grammar in speech e.g. I done my homework = I did my homework.
- Play listening games to improve listening skills e.g. the telephone game, memory games
- Describe what you are doing as you are doing it and encourage the child to do the same
- Find opportunities to explore language through describing e.g. a woodland walk, a winter's day etc
- Discuss shared interests regularly e.g. football, baking, music
- Playing language association games to increase vocabulary