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Head Teacher: Mr S Arnold

Monday 29th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Nationally, Monday 29th March to Sunday 4th April is World Autism Awareness Week and within school this week, discussions will ensue regarding autism and how it affects 1 in every 100 children – including children at Oak Meadow.

I will launch the week with a whole school assembly using resources from The National Autistic Society...introducing The Trummies as characters on the autism spectrum:

The Trummies:					
					
Purple	Pinky	Custard	Bluey	Minty	Rusty
<p><i>Whilst each character is very similar, discussions will take place identifying both the likenesses and the differences between them and how we can use the characters as examples of the similarities and differences between all adults and children - particularly with autism - whilst also focusing upon our unique characters and personalities.</i></p>					

As further acknowledgement of World Autism Awareness Week, I invite all staff and children to wear their own clothes in school – blue in colour – on Thursday 1st April - to show understanding and acceptance of autism and the differences between one-another. Blue is symbolic of The Autism Society and is associated with calmness and acceptance in what is often a loud and busy world for people on the spectrum.

We hope you will support us on Thursday with children wearing blue clothing.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

S Arnold

Mr Arnold

From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow...



WHAT IS AUTISM?

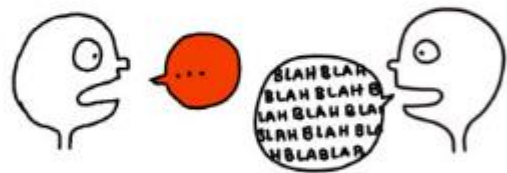
Everyone is different. Some differences are easy to see.



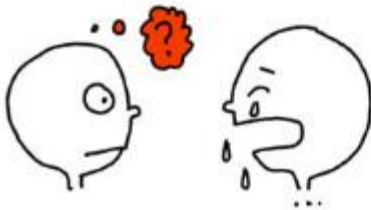
Others are less visible, like autism, which is a difference in how the brain works.



Autistic people express themselves differently. Some of them don't talk much; others don't talk at all, and some talk all the time.



Autistic people can have trouble decoding other people's emotions...



...or trouble expressing their own emotions like other people.



Some autistic people can find it easy to learn very complicated things...



...or they can have trouble doing
Simple things, like small talk.



They can have intense
interests and passions
that we may find surprising.



They can also have intense fears
that we may find difficult to
understand.



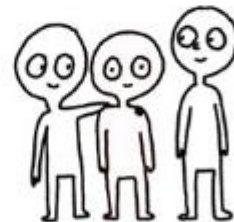
Autistic people sometimes display behaviors that are unique and surprising...



But it doesn't prevent them from having interesting lives and creating beautiful things.



Autistic people deserve to be loved and respected, just like everyone else.



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