

Family Values

Our Value of the month is...

Democracy



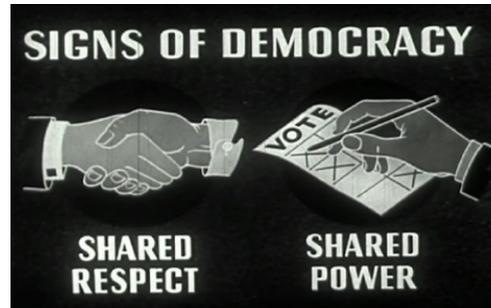
Many countries throughout history have been governed by elite men and women who make laws and legal judgments with little input from their citizens. The founders of democratic nations, however, believed in creating a government where the "common man" could have a voice in politics. For such an approach to work, citizens must become aware, knowledgeable and active in their communities and nations. True democratic citizenship requires more than voting for representatives. It requires using your own mind, voice, and actions.

Democracies are built on the belief that people should be free, should have choices and opportunities, and should work together to make each other's lives better.

- Democracies need citizens who know how to share power and control. Try to gain experiences that allow you to decide what to learn and do. With these experiences, you can learn how to use power decently.
- Without the principle of respect, democracy cannot exist. When we show respect to others we reinforce the value of different ideas and in sustaining democratic ideals.
- Don't minimize your power to make a difference. No single person can change the world, but you can do what's possible within your sphere of influence.

What to talk about at home:

- Be involved in family decisions.
- Find out about the General Election, think about who you would vote for, what do the politicians say about schools and children.
- Read the newspaper with your family and discuss articles about local issues, especially those that affect children.
- Attend a community or school meeting together.
- Participate in community service together.
- Read about and discuss people who are good examples of democratic citizens such as Sir Winston Churchill or Emily Pankhurst.



The best way to learn about Democracy is to try it...

This month's Family Values activity is to consider if you would like the chance to be Head Teacher for the day. All children from Lugg (YR) to Pentaloe (Y6) are welcome to apply and will be given age appropriate support to carry out their job effectively. The successful candidate will be able to work with me for the day, be involved in helping with the day to day running of things and in making decisions that will be for the benefit of the whole school. Do you think that you would be able to make a valuable contribution and are an outstanding candidate to be Head Teacher for the day? If so you will need to write a letter outlining why you think you would be the best candidate to represent all of the children at our school. Each class will be given the chance to vote for the candidate they would like to represent them and then the whole school will be given the chance to choose one successful candidate from the 7 classes. That person will then spend a day finding out about the Head Teacher role and having an influence.

Each class candidate will also be invited to a special meeting, called the Dragon Board, to discuss school development ideas and be involved in planning for the next academic year.

All letters need to be handed to me by Monday 22nd May.

Voting will take place on Friday 26th May.

The successful candidate will be Head Teacher for the day on Monday 19th June.

The Dragon Board meeting will be Wednesday 21st June.

All letters will earn 10 House Points.

Good Luck !

Best wishes,

Miss Finney

