

Berkeley Primary School

School of Sanctuary Newsletter - February 2024



Everyone is welcome here!

At Berkeley Primary School we aim to be a welcoming community where everyone is valued. We are very proud of the diversity within our school. We encourage all our children to celebrate their language and culture.

We are very proud to announce that Berkeley Primary School is applying for School of Sanctuary status. A School of Sanctuary is committed to being a safe and welcoming place for those seeking sanctuary. It helps its children, staff and wider community understand what it means to be seeking sanctuary and to extend a welcome to everyone as equal, valued members of our community. It is a school that is proud to be a place of safety and inclusion for all.

Our staff are having ongoing professional development to learn how we can best support new arrivals to our school, including people seeking sanctuary.

For more information visit
www.cityofsanctuary.org/schools/resources



Working towards becoming a School of Sanctuary provides schools with a powerful focus for development in areas such as:

- Meeting the requirements of the Equality Act 2010
- Developing the curriculum in areas such literacy, language, arts, geography, history and humanities
- Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural education and 'British Values'
- Building an inclusive school culture of belonging that reduces intolerance, hate speech and bullying
- Improving the provision of English as an additional language in school
- Fostering active citizenship and changemaking skills amongst young people

Every Child • Every Chance • Every Day

Class Dojo is available in 36 languages with more to come.



For now, please ask for a paper copy at the office.



Our super Language Buddies do a fantastic job of supporting new children, including those who are New to English. They make them feel welcome, help them to settle in, teach them some English and translate for them. We are very proud of our kind volunteers.



We have dual language books in all classrooms. We enjoy looking at different languages and hearing stories read aloud. We love sharing our languages and learning from each other. We encourage all our bilingual children to continue reading in their first language—did you know this helps to improve their English skills? We have even had ‘Secret Storytellers’ sharing stories in their language.



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