

In St. Mary's National School Castlefinn, the most important thing is creating a safe environment whereby difference is accepted and a culture of mutual respect is embedded. We work hard to promote this ethos all day, every day, 183 days a year. As teachers, we have the responsibility to lead by example and restorative practice is advocated as our approach when things don't go to plan.

Clear expectations are displayed at our front door.



Pupils are encouraged to use the 'High Five' approach when dealing with difficulties.





We celebrate Anti-Bullying Week every November and a huge body of work is undertaken to promote awareness i.e student surveys and audits, odd sock day, parent information evenings etc. All pupils sign up to an anti-bullying pledge. We display this at our front door and keep the signed slips below for the entire year. If difficulties arise, we take the pupils involved back to this noticeboard and show them their signed declaration – really useful.



We are a telling school and promote reporting of bullying to any trusted member of school personnel. We remind the pupils all the time that THEY have the power to stop bullying i.e.

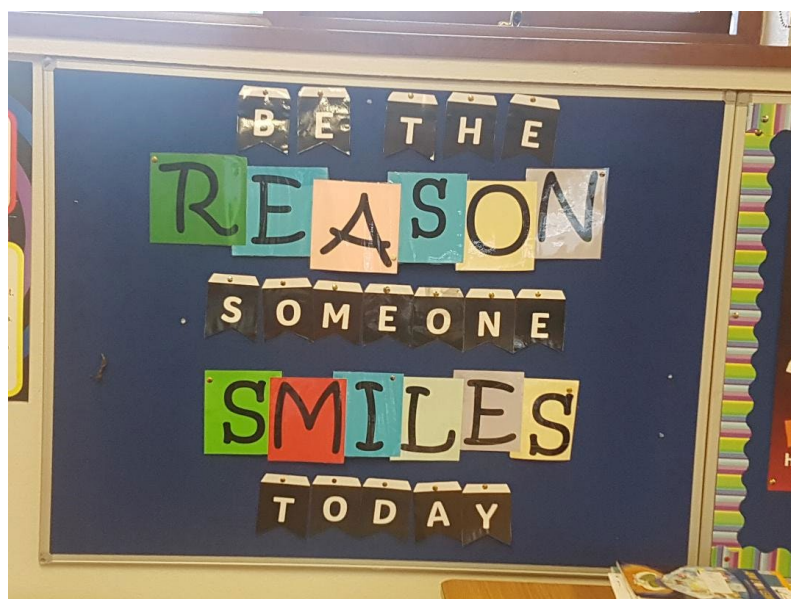
by the way they treat others and speaking out if they see something that isn't kind. We encourage pupils to REPORT IT. If they don't report it, they must support it. This is powerful

– many pupils as bystanders think they can do nothing to stop bullying but this message reminds them of their obligation to tell. Outside the principal's office we have a locked letterbox whereby pupils can share their concerns in written form rather than verbally with

Mrs. Murray – *Share your worry with Mrs. Murray*



Anti-bullying signage is displayed all through all school.





We work closely with our local SVP and Pieta House and renew our Amber flag continuously.

