





Dear parent/carers

The 21st March 2021 is World Down Syndrome Day. To show our support and raise awareness of Down's syndrome we invite all of our school community to wear odd socks, the brighter the better!

Campaigners came up with the idea of wearing odd socks, because chromosomes are shaped 'like socks' and people with Down's Syndrome have an extra chromosome. You can share your odd socks on social media using the hashtag #lotsofsocks.

This is something that is very close to our hearts especially since Rory joined our nursery. As a school we encourage all our pupils to celebrate their differences and the positives in these differences.

Rory's mummy wanted to share her view:

"We quickly learnt after having Rory that Down's syndrome isn't the life sentence people think it is! He is the sunshine of our family and he brings us all so much joy and happiness. We understand that to others Down's syndrome can be scary as it's the unknown that we all worry about. We celebrate and wear odd socks on world Down's syndrome Day to raise awareness that there is nothing to be scared about. We ask people to take a second and look that little bit closer, I'm almost certain you'd just see Rory"  

The **21st day of March** (the 3rd month of the year) was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the **21st** chromosome, which causes **Down syndrome**. As 21 March is a Sunday, we would like the children to come to school on **MONDAY 22 MARCH** wearing some socks that are going to get noticed - they might be mismatched socks or your craziest and most colourful socks, whatever takes your fancy! These will start a conversation and awareness for children about children and adults with Down syndrome.

Since we are fund raising money on Friday 19 March (in recognition of comic relief) we would like to split any money raised on this day to comic relief and to the DSI (Down Syndrome International: <https://www.ds-int.org/>)

Many thanks for your support

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carole Clemens'.

Carole Clemens

Head teacher