



# Reculver Church of England Primary School

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Dear parents/carers,

'Lots of Socks'  
World Down Syndrome Day  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016

This year Reculver CE Primary School is excited to be joining the world in the 11th anniversary of World Down Syndrome Day.

World Down Syndrome Day (WDS) was set up to create a single global voice for advocating for the rights, inclusion and wellbeing of people with Down Syndrome. The date for WDS (21st March) being the 21<sup>st</sup> day of the 3rd month, was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome which causes Down Syndrome.

As a school, on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March, to raise awareness of Down Syndrome we will be showing the children a short video - 'just like you' and running Makaton workshops throughout the week. Makaton is a language programme that uses signs and symbols to help people communicate. Whilst raising awareness of Down Syndrome we will also be raising money with all of the proceeds going towards extra specialist resources we need and use in school.

The theme again this year is 'lots of socks' and we would like to invite the children of Reculver CE Primary School to join in the world wide wear odd socks to school on this day for a voluntary contribution (suggested donation £1)

We will also be holding a design a sock colouring competition, it is 50p to enter with sock templates available from class teachers now. Winners will be chosen from Early Years, Lower School, Middle school and Upper school. The closing date for entries is Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March. All sock designs will be used to display facts about Down Syndrome around the school. GOOD LUCK!

Children and adults with Down Syndrome often have low muscle tone in their hands (as well as other parts of their bodies), finding fine motor skills activities difficult. We will be having demonstrations in class where children will attempt to wear socks on their hands to complete a writing activity/ doing up their coat/ zips/ buttons to simulate the difficulty that people with low muscle tone have and to widen our understanding.

We thank you in advance for your kind support in helping us raise awareness and funds for World Down Syndrome Day.



**AQUILA**  
Diocese of Canterbury  
Academies Trust

