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Dear Parents and Carers,

Each half term, each class is given two PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) inspired books to read in class. The children listen to the story, then think about all of the concepts to do with PSHE which the book relates to. They turn these concepts into philosophical questions and they then discuss the possible answers to these questions.

The children are encouraged to use their skills to define and refine questions, find meanings, justify their ideas and explain what they mean. They learn to speak with confidence, they learn to listen well to each other and they learn to build on the thoughts and ideas of each other to create a meaningful dialogue. They find polite ways to say that they agree and disagree with each other's points of view and they practise finding examples and evidence to describe and clarify their thoughts and opinions – all at a level appropriate to their age.

This activity aims to build communities of enquiry where children develop their creative, critical, caring and collaborative thinking skills.

<b>Caring</b> Listening, concentrating, valuing and appreciating e.g. showing interest in, and sensitivity to, others' experiences and values.	<b>Collaborative</b> Responding, communicating, supporting and conciliating e.g. building on each other's ideas, shaping common understandings and purposes.
<b>Critical</b> Questioning, interrogating, reasoning and evaluating e.g. seeking meaning, evidence, reasons, distinctions and good judgements.	<b>Creative</b> Connecting, relating, suggesting and speculating e.g. providing comparisons, examples, criteria, alternative explanations or conceptions.

At our recent RSHE parental consultation, parents asked for information about these books so that they could investigate the contents of the books themselves and prepare to talk to their children about the books at home.

These are the books being used, in Year 1 for PSHE Read Aloud, this academic year:

Term	Spring 2	Summer 1		Summer 2	
Theme	Healthy Me	Relationships		Changing Me	
England	<b>The Koala Who Could</b> by Jim Field	<b>I don't like Koala</b> by Sean Farrell	<b>Astro Girl</b> by Ken Wilson-Max	<b>The Crocodile Who Didn't Like Water</b> by Gemma Merino	<b>I Am Enough</b> by Grace Byers
Ireland	<b>Secret, Secret</b> by Daisy Law	<b>The Koala Who Could</b> by Jim Field	<b>I don't like Koala</b> by Sean Farrell	<b>Astro Girl</b> by Ken Wilson-Max	<b>Billy Monster's Daymare</b> by Alan Durant
Scotland	<b>Secret, Secret</b> by Daisy Law	<b>Under the Ramadan Moon</b> by Sylvia Whitman	<b>Please Mr Panda</b> by Steve Antony	<b>I Am Enough</b> by Grace Byers	<b>The Koala Who Could</b> by Jim Field
Wales	<b>I Am Enough</b> by Grace Byers	<b>Please Mr Panda</b> by Steve Antony	<b>Secret, Secret</b> by Daisy Law	<b>The Koala Who Could</b> by Jim Field	<b>The Crocodile Who Didn't Like Water</b> by Gemma Merino

Book and Author	Themes to be explored
<b>Under the Ramadan Moon</b> by Sylvia Whitman	Ramadan is one of the most special months of the Islamic year, when Muslims pray, fast, and help those in need. This story will introduce the children to Ramadan and explain that it is a time for reflection and ritual with family and friends. Children who have experience themselves of this special month will be able to share with their friends and discuss this special time for their family.
<b>Billy Monster's Daymare</b> by Alan Durant	Billy Monster cannot sleep, he has horrible daymares about boys and girls. Although Daddy Monster has tried howling a lullaby and making a soothing cup of cold slime, Billy is still worried. Set in a world where monsters are scared of children, this story helps us to explore the concept of fear and discuss how to overcome our own fears.
<b>I Am Enough</b> by Grace Byers	This book explores the themes of loving who you are, respecting others and being kind to each other.
<b>The Crocodile Who Didn't Like Water</b> by Gemma Merino	This book looks at what it feels like to be different from everyone else and to feel as though you don't fit in. It has a message of accepting who you are and a message of accepting that others around you may be different from you.
<b>Astro Girl</b> by Ken Wilson-Max	Astrid has always loved the stars and space. "I want to be an astronaut!" she says. While her mother is away, her dad and Astrid have fun acting out the challenges an astronaut faces on a space mission - eating food from a tube, doing science experiments, living and sleeping in near-zero gravity. At the end of the story, the children discover that Astrid's mum is a real-life astronaut, demonstrating that our dreams and ambitions can come true.
<b>I don't like Koala</b> by Sean Farrell	Adam does not like Koala. Adam tries explaining this to his parents and he tries putting Koala away-far away. The story explores how we express our feelings, what can cause them and how sometimes we can change our mind.
<b>Where Are My Books?</b> by Debbie Ridpath Ohi	Spencer loves to read. He reads a book every night. But one morning his favourite book goes missing, and in its place is a tulip. Spencer searches high and low, but he can't find his book. The next morning another book is missing, a nut in its place. And the morning after that, another book is missing. The story explores problem solving and working together.
<b>The Koala Who Could</b> by Jim Field	Meet Kevin the koala who likes to keep things the same. But sometimes change comes along whether we like it or not... And, as Kevin discovers, if you step outside your comfort zone and try new things, you might just surprise yourself! This story encourages the children to talk about dealing with change and overcoming worries.
<b>Please Mr Panda</b> by Steve Antony	This is a story that promotes the need to use your manners. Mr Panda has a tray of doughnuts. Patiently and politely, Mr Panda asks his friends if they would like one. Each animal says yes, but without the all-important 'please'! Is anyone worthy of Mr Panda's doughnuts?
<b>Secret, Secret</b> by Daisy Law	There are lots of different types of secrets. This picture book subtly explores the different types of secrets children may have, and encourages them to feel confident to share their secrets. It provides a great opportunity for discussing the things we should and shouldn't keep secret.

If you would like any further information or would like to discuss these books in more detail, please do not hesitate to speak to your class teacher, the PSHE lead – Ms Henson (Reception - Cameroon), or to me.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Marie Hardie  
Deputy Head Teacher