

NEWSLETTER 49 - AUTUMN 2020

Welcome and a Time for Reflection

Welcome to our new look newsletter this autumn as we celebrate our Silver Jubilee.

We hope that you and your family are staying safe during these difficult and challenging times. Few communities around the world have been untouched by the coronavirus pandemic and the knock-on effect of country lockdowns. Generations before us saw better times after facing national or global crises of all kinds, and today's generations will too. To quote the centenarian Captain Tom – "Tomorrow Will Be a Good Day". The Values of Compassion, Patience and Hope are strong foundations on which we can all build.



Morning Sunrise

Adapting to the Challenges

The last 8 months have been difficult for the Foundation as the closure of schools in the UK, near to the end of the Spring Term and the entire Summer Term, inevitably meant that we were unable to make much progress with the roll out of our programme for children's rounded development, The Big Think (TBT).

The current Autumn Term has been only a little better in this respect as most schools are struggling with the pressures of managing the safety measures necessitated by the pandemic. Against this backdrop we have switched our focus for the time being towards completing a further 16 lesson plans that are needed to cover the full range of the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) curriculums that schools are now expected to teach,

and developing our TBT training for teachers. Our Curriculum Developer, Sarah Pengelly, has conducted some TBT training online as well as face-to-face in schools.

On 1 October she ran a free online session for teachers to show how TBT resources support wellbeing and safeguarding for pupils and staff and how they meet the new RSE expectations. We propose to offer similar, free, online sessions monthly.

We are also working on the development of a Community Values in Action Dialogue series to use in schools to help engage the wider community in school-based social action projects.



We are pleased to be involved with these Inspirational Organisations

Diverse Educators, a new company formed in February, is on a mission to promote inclusive values in schools such as Belonging and Acceptance. They are working to promote 9 Protected Characteristics including Race, Sex, Gender and Disability. The Big Think features in their Religion and Belief section alongside other programmes that champion an inclusive culture in schools.

Mentally Healthy Schools and the Anna Freud Centre produce expert training and resources about mental health in schools. The TBT free mini programme, Circles of CARE that we created earlier this summer to help children connect with each other again in caring ways on returning to school, features in their collection of COVID-19 toolkits that schools could find very useful.





World Values Day 2020

World Values Day (WVD) this year was held on 15 October 2020. An annual campaign to increase the awareness and practice of values around the world, this year's theme was about 'Values in Action'. Individuals and organisations of all kinds were invited to act on their values and share those actions via social media.

The social media campaign proved to be amazing. Congratulations go to the WVD team and our Chair, Charles Fowler, who is closely involved in organising and co-ordinating World Values Day. On Twitter alone, the WVD potential reach was 75 million people across 67 countries. Other social media channels - LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram, also showed record activity both before and on the day.

The other WVD big online activity was the 'Valuesthon', a rolling series of events, running back-to-back and sometimes at the same time from New Zealand at the beginning of the day through to the west coast of the US and Canada at the end of the day. Some 32 events of all kinds appeared in the Valuesthon and covered a multitude of contexts.

The ultimate event of the Valuesthon was the annual Values-based Education Conference held online on 16 October. Sarah Pengelly facilitated a workshop for us at the conference. It was well attended and very well received.







Hospital Staff in Northern Ireland

Valuesthon: World Values Day Knowledge Cafe

... and to end this section, click here to watch the WVD 2020 animation, which we are sure will put a smile on everyone's face.

A Proud Partner of WVD ... How the Foundation joined in to celebrate World Values Day

One of TBT's new sub-values is Pride (which comes under our core value TRUTH). Clearly it is a potentially tricky value as it can have both positive and negative connotations. We thought it links well with the puberty element of the new RSE requirements and so commissioned author Yasmin Floyer to write a playscript highlighting the common worries that Year 5 and 6 children have about changes happening or not happening to their bodies as they approach puberty. Sarah Pengelly piloted this session with Year 6 in TBT school, St Paul's and All Hallows' Juniors in London.

Further thought was given to this sensitive subject, and as we wanted to celebrate WVD and show a value in action, our collaboration with dance charity Streetz Ahead was born. We were offered their lead instructor Zak Harry to run 4 sessions with seventeen Year 6 girls at St Paul's and All Hallows' School to create a performance based on pride in our bodies. This culminated in a showcase film which was released on World Values Day.



Value Pride in Our Bodies at St Paul's and All Hallows' Junior School in Tottenham, London

Supporting the HVF

We will be holding our 25th Annual General Meeting online via Zoom on Sunday 15 November 2020 at 11am. As is our practice, we follow this with an open forum discussing topics that enable us to achieve our mission during the year(s) ahead. Please do let us know if you would like to join us for this forum via Zoom at 11:15am and we will send you the link via email.

We hope that you have enjoyed this newsletter and found it interesting and it has given you an overview of our work in the last few months. These are challenging times but they are also exciting times for us at the Foundation as we continue to adapt and evolve. We welcome and look forward to your comments and feedback and send our grateful thanks and appreciation for your continued generous support.

It would be wonderful if you felt that you could make a special donation in this, our Jubilee year. Maybe £25? There are several ways of contributing as shown on the Foundation's website – or we still accept cheques!

AND FINALLY ...

If you have any comments, suggestions or ideas about gaining sponsorship for our various ongoing projects or would like to have some e-materials about The Big Think programme to share with your friends, family members, potential subscribing Friends of our charity and others, please contact:

Rosemary Dewan, Human Values Foundation, The Coach House, Salisbury Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 0AJ

Alternatively do ring 01403 259711 or e-mail: yes2values@hvf.org.uk.

The charity's website is: www.humanvaluesfoundation.com. The Big Think's website is: www.the-big-think.org.

The Human Values Foundation team wishes all our readers a healthy and happy winter.

Patrons: Sir Michael Morpurgo, OBE, FRSL, FKC, DL;
Prof Kamran Mofid, PhD; Dr Kevin Auton, PhD
Education Advisor: Sir Anthony Seldon, MA, PhD, FRSA, MBA, FRHisS, FKC





