

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to inform you that we have planned a special visitor for all of the children to meet on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November. The visitor is called Toby Hewson and is a representative from the charity 'Just Different'. Please see below for information about this charity:

"Just Different is a registered Charity that was founded in 2008 to make a positive difference to the lives of disabled and non-disabled people. We currently employ a team of disabled Presenters that deliver unique, fun and inspiring workshops to children and young people in schools and community groups across the country. Over 188,000 children and young people have benefitted from meeting a Presenter and the whole workshop experience has given them a very different perception of those that are disabled or different. Our message is simple, "we are all different" regardless of abilities and disabilities and that everyone should be accepted as equal members of society."

The Key Stage 2 children will be working with Toby in workshops and key Stage 1 children will access a special assembly with him. As well as meeting Toby and participating in his workshops/assemblies, the children will also have the opportunity to purchase a Just Different wristband for £1 if they wish. Of course, there is no obligation to do this.

#### Information about Toby

Toby has always had a special interest in education and launched Just Different in 2008 to challenge and change negative and out dated attitudes of disability & difference, whilst offering other disabled adults the chance of meaningful employment.

Just before his first birthday Toby was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, a condition affecting the ability to control muscles. Toby is unable to talk and uses a speech synthesiser to communicate; he also uses a motorised wheelchair to get around. He lives independently employing full time support assistants to help him with his everyday needs.

Some of the funds raised at the next school disco will pay for Toby's expenses so thanks to all involved/coming to the disco as this makes this opportunity possible for our children.

I am sure you will agree that this will be a very powerful experience for the children. Please do come and ask if you have any questions about Toby's visit to our school.

With best wishes, Sian.