Patience is our New Value of the Month at Hall Green Infant and Nursery School.
Values Education for March

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have enjoyed exploring the value word TRUST this month! It is a word which is said often in general conversation, so it has been exciting to talk about what it means with the children. We hope you were able to discuss it at home.

Our new value for the month of March is PATIENCE!

Patience is being able to wait contentedly.

How many times does your child try to interrupt your conversation, or tug at your leg if you are busy, wanting immediate attention?!

It is natural to want your own way, and natural to be upset when we don't get it. What is important is that we understand that this can't happen all the time.

Sometimes we have to wait for our turn - for example:

♦ in the playground for the playhouses, toys or bikes,
♦ in the classroom for our turn at the computer or help from the teacher,
♦ at home for our favourite TV programme or our turn on the Playstation.
♦ Waiting in the dinner queue! There are many more instances that you can think of!

The quality that helps us cope with these situations is, of course, Patience.

♦ Patience to wait your turn
♦ Patience with others who are selfish and don’t share

❖ Patience with our parents when they insist on us doing something we don’t want to do.
❖ Patience with ourselves when we are frustrated
❖ because we are not getting our own way.

What can we do at home to help develop this quality?

❖ Explain to your child why they can’t have their own way.
❖ Praise them for sharing games, toys, TV, sweets etc.
❖ Use situations to explain what Patience means - waiting in a queue in the supermarket; waiting for dinner to be ready, waiting for visitors to arrive, waiting to go to a party or cinema. (you could make a list together when an occasion for patience arises and bring it in to school to share with the class)
❖ Think of people who have to show patience in their work. Teachers in school, lorry drivers in a traffic jam, patients in a surgery, dogs waiting for their walk etc.
❖ Waiting for a birthday
❖ Can you think of more?! Please write them down so we can share them together in class!

Can you think of any strategies which you can use when having to wait patiently? Eg. sing a song, make up a poem/rhyme - any more ideas please bring them in to school so we can all try them!

‘OWL BABIES' by M. Waddell and P. Benson is a story which can be used to discuss patience. (A shortened version is written for you to read and discuss.)

Once there were three baby owls who lived in a tree in a wood. One night they woke up and their Owl Mother was GONE!

"Where's Mummy?" asked Sarah. "Oh my goodness!" said Percy. "I want my mummy!" said Bill.

The baby owls thought (all owls think a lot). "I think she's gone hunting," said Sarah. "To get us food!" said Percy. "I want my mummy!" said Bill.

It was dark in the wood and they had to be brave, for