

9 May 2013

Dear Parents/ Caregivers

Philosophy for Children Year 3



Each Thursday this term, from 9.05am until 9.45 am, _____ will be withdrawn from class to take part in a Philosophy for Children's group.

Philosophy is designed to build thinking and reasoning skills as well as self esteem. Topics are child-centred and answers require original thought rather than known facts. Children are encouraged to give reasons for their opinions, to 'try out' their own ideas and to be respectful but thoughtful listeners.

This term we will be using picture books as the basis for our discussions. Our sessions may involve games, writing, group work, art and drama. Recognising assumptions, using counter examples and analogies, creating distinctions between concepts that seem similar and learning to ask philosophical questions are some of the skills we will be practising.

Home discussions are an important part of this programme as talking with family members makes new ideas flourish. **Children need an exercise book for our next session** – IB4 is a good size -to record ideas and questions they wish to discuss. The first home discussion sheet will be given out then.

Keep an eye on the *FPS and Philosophy Weebly* that is linked to the school website under *Class Websites* for insights into how the philosophy programme is run. *The home discussion sheet will be posted on the Year 3 page starting from next week.*

If you need any further information, please leave a message at the office or email me using the link on the school website.

Yours sincerely

Vivienne Campbell

