

OUR VALUE –TOLERANCE

“We may have come here on different ships, but we’re all in the same boat!”
(Dr. Martin Luther King Jnr.)

What is TOLERANCE? To be tolerant is to accept differences. You don’t expect others to think, look, speak or act just like you. Tolerance is being free of prejudice, knowing that all people have feelings, needs, hopes and dreams. To be tolerant also means to accept things you wish were different with flexibility and patience.

Why practice TOLERANCE? People who don’t practice tolerance cannot stand to have anything differ from what they want and expect. Tolerance helps them accept things as they are. People without tolerance judge others by the way they look, sound, or dress. They decide who can be a friend and who can’t. When people are teased or left out, they feel sad and lonely. When we are tolerant, we don’t allow differences to drive us apart.

You can practice TOLERANCE by:

- Showing respect and appreciation for differences.
- Not judging or teasing someone who is different.
- Making people feel at home.
- Showing forgiveness when someone makes a mistake.
- Being assertive!
- Having patience and flexibility to accept the things you cannot change with good grace.

Affirmation: I am tolerant. I overlook people’s faults. I appreciate differences. I accept the things I cannot change with good grace.

What would tolerance look like if.....

- A new student comes into class wearing clothes you have never seen before?
- Others are making fun of someone because all he cares about is maths?
- Your mother picks you up late for the third time this week?
- Another student keeps asking to share your lunch?
- You’re on a school trip and it is hot and uncomfortable?
- Your sister has a really annoying habit she can’t seem to change?
- A student keeps bullying you in the playground?



So let’s appreciate our differences. Let’s lift each other up instead of putting each other down! Unite in diversity!

Check out our school foyer for Fitzgerald’s Tolerance Towers in the coming weeks. Our students will be building tolerance throughout the term. Help them in their endeavours to do this!

Karen Whittaker **Nick Ayre**
Deputy Principal **School Chaplain**