

Newall Green Primary School Manchester
Peace Mala Re-Accreditation Self-Assessment Evidence
June 2016

Area 1

Becoming a Peace Mala School is part of the whole School Development Plan approved by staff and the Governing Body. This is shared with the whole school community. A chosen year group will need to study and explore Peace Mala by using the kits and educational materials during a particular term every year. This encourages Peace Mala continuity in the school curriculum. The school will also share good practice with other schools who are members of the global community of Peace Mala.

As a school, we celebrate the diversity of faiths, cultures and lifestyles this developed from a meeting with the RE Hub in July 2011 where Laura Daniels introduced 'The Peace Mala' to an extremely inspired Shelley Lynton; who was the newly appointed RE Coordinator at the time. Since her departure three other teachers have taken the lead over the years (Mrs Harrison, Mrs Maguire and now Mr Whitehouse) all of whom have been dedicated to helping promote the Peace Mala not only in our own school but helping to spread the message in other schools too.

We continue to be part of the Greater Manchester RE hub schools and at the Manchester RE Hub Networks have supported Laura Daniels by leading the Peace Mala stall helping to promote and encourage other schools to join by sharing our own experiences . We also sponsored one the 14 symbolic doves. Celebrating its arrival at our school during a Spring Festival, organised by Mrs McGuire.



Mr Whitehouse on the Peace Mala stall at Manchester's RE Hub.



Peace Dove 2 meets pupils of Newall Green.

During the summer of 2015 Mr Whitehouse and Amy Grundy of Baguley Hall Primary collaborated on further plans to help continue the Peace Mala message with our link schools in Zambia. The Peace Mala was first introduced to our link schools in July 2012 when Newall Green Primary

joined the 'Zambaid' project, with our cluster schools. Mr Whitehouse continued this project on further visits in 2013 and 2014.



Mr Whitehouse, Mr Earnshaw and Mr Kordemir introducing Peace Mala to Muteteshi Basic School, Zambia. 2012/13/14.

As he was unable to attend the 2015 trip Miss Grundy took on this task. We passed on the symbolic Peace Dove number 2 for her to take back to her school before taking it with her to Zambia. After returning she kindly returned to our school and informed our children of what they had achieved in an assembly. We also collaborated on our plans for celebrating international peace day, where our peace councils met for the first time. We look forward to continuing our work together in promoting the peace mala and hope to create a Peace Mala working group with our other cluster schools.

Our Deputy head, Mr Kordemir has also taken the Peace Mala message along with him and a group of children in 2015 to North Cyprus as part of the World Children's Day Celebrations We have organised many workshops including dances whilst in these countries that have reflected diversity and celebrated difference promoting our hope for Peace.

The governors, staff, children and parents thoroughly enjoy celebrating our Peace Mala work and achievements and since gaining our accreditation in June 2013, Peace Mala has remained at the heart of our schools ethos. In preparation for September 2013, the new school year, we decided to update our mission statement and in September 2014 updates to our behaviour policy were made to help establish and show the importance of the Peace Mala in our school and hopefully to help inspire others.

Sarah Rudd Head Teacher at Newall Green Primary:
"Attempting to become a Peace Mala School has provided amazing opportunities for our pupils and staff; special faith celebration days, inspiring guest speakers and special honoured guests who watched our performances. We have made many

fantastic links with our Peace Mala work too and had once in a life time experiences; including our participation of the Bathing of The Buddha celebrations at the Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Temple and Truce Workshops at Gorton Monastery”.

All of the Peace Mala work that we do is regularly fed back to the School Governors, through Sarah Rudd the Head Teacher at Newall Green. They are informed of all the opportunities it has led to and all of the benefits it provides not just to the children, but also the staff and the wider community. Half termly newsletters are sent to parents from the school notifying them of all the work the children and the school are involved in relating to the Peace Mala and we have a ‘BIG BANG’ event at least once a term where one faith is celebrated and the links to the Peace Mala are made. These weeks or day long events always end with an after school event that involves the families and friends of the children and staff at the school- so that the message spreads out to the wider community too.



Along the school corridors there are a variety of vibrant displays that are designed to encourage the children to have tolerance, understanding and to embrace differences between them. All of these are messages encouraged by the wearing of the Peace Mala bracelet are supplied not only for the Year 4 cohort but also as part the staff dress requirements. As from the week of the introduction to the Peace Mala, when Mrs Rudd kindly supplied all of the staff with their own bracelet which had to be worn at school! We have completed an Art and RE project with NGAGE. The theme for our project had a multi faith approach, celebrating the diversity of religions within our school community by creating a large image of the Peace Mala bird arriving at our school on our main wall entrance as we began our path onto becoming a Peace Mala School. We used old ceramic tiles to create this image, allowing the 90 Year 6 children to colour the tiles and each play a role in making the final piece of art work that they would leave as a lasting memory of their hope for Peace for the children at the school for many years to come. Our years 6's each year have continued to contribute in some way before they leave. This year's current year 6's decided on a memory garden, which they have begun to create on the main field close to the main entrance gates. This will be something they will contribute their own favourite memories

to on rocks and will be visible for them to continue to see as they pass by our school. Helping to remind them of their peace mala contributions over the year.

We also looked at our understanding of faith symbols and decided that the best way of doing that would be to have a designated 'Peace Mala' person of the day. Since September 2014 we updated this as the children felt it was too similar to our PATH's Pupil of the day. Instead we decided to have weekly peace pals, who instead of being chosen by the adults were voted for by the children in their own class. To ensure the children did not just vote for their friends every week the class teacher would choose three children they felt had worked hard to keep their peace promise and share their reasons with the class. The children would then use a ballot box and vote by adding the correct coloured cube into the box for the child they selected. The vote was then counted and the person receiving the award would receive a special certificate in the schools weekly celebration assembly as well as being able to wear the peace mala bracelet for that week. These children were then tasked with supporting adults at playtimes to ensure conflicts were kept to a minimum and would look out for any sad/lonely children and help them to find a friend.

Our largest display promoting our hope for peace is in our main hall. It was produced by a local artist, whom is a friend to the school. The 'hands together as one community tree' is a large tree which each and every child's hand from our school on. The children decorated their hands and were taught that children of all different faiths have the same hope for peace, and that all hands together on our tree will show our commitment to keeping the peace mala promise. The tree is enormous and is placed near the entrance of our hall. It is a fantastic talking point for visitors to our school and easy way to promote the Peace Mala ethos. This has resulted in more art projects including painted Muriels around school to help inspire pupils and adults alike as they walk around our school.

Our school web page,

[\(http://newallgreen.manchester.sch.uk/our-school/peace-mala/\)](http://newallgreen.manchester.sch.uk/our-school/peace-mala/)

has an area dedicated to the Peace Mala and Faith projects that we have been involved in., which can be visited by parents, children and people in the wider community.

As part of our on-going School Development plan Peace Mala h integrated in to our RE education throughout the school. The children learn about the Peace Mala and in Year 4 they get the chance to make the Peace Mala bracelets. This year, we have had the pleasure of working with Joe Malaika, who works for Urban Peace, an organisation that promotes peace in her local area. She has come in and worked with the children as a part of our Truce Ambassador Project. As well as producing the bracelet and instructing the children on the unifying message of peace across all the world's religions, she has also discussed how we can promote peace in our local area. The Golden Rule, embraced within all the faiths of the Peace Mala bracelet provides the essence of our teaching.



Year 4 children making Peace Mala bracelets with Malaika. 2016

Promoting peace is the ethos of Newall Green. Bringing together all religions, races and cultures, celebrating differences and similarities and embracing every type of person is the message promoted by children and all the staff at the school. One of the most successful ways we have found to do this was by updating our schools Behaviour policy. For years we used the 'Golden rules' in school but after feedback from the parents and children who felt that they had become outdated and somewhat confusing we decided to change these to our 6 Peace Commitments. These commitments link to the underlying messages of the Peace Mala and are overseen by the Peace Mala golden rule. We want to teach the children to be kind, loving and peaceful and to spread the message as far as we can.



Area 2

By engaging with Peace Mala the school is committed to education for global citizenship through the promotion of understanding, respect, friendship, tolerance and peace between all communities, cultures and enlightened, compassionate faiths. Peace Mala promotes and encourages community cohesion.

As a school we continue to use PATHS® (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) Curriculum this year. PATHS® is a comprehensive program for promoting emotional and social competencies and reducing aggression and behaviour problems in school-aged children. Although primarily focused on the school and classroom settings, information and activities are also included for use with parents. The introduction of the PATHS curriculum across the school has been exciting PATHS stands for Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies and helps our children to recognise emotions and make sensible choices about their own behaviour

and that of others. During the lessons, children are taught to recognise and describe feelings, understanding that all feelings are okay but some feelings are comfortable like being happy or excited and other feelings are uncomfortable like being anxious or annoyed. Children also learn to use control signals to manage their feelings. Every day a child is chosen randomly in each class to be the 'PATHS Child of the Day.' This child wears a special badge and is given important jobs to do during the day. At the end of the day, compliments are given to this child by children and staff in their class. This is then sent home for the child's caregiver to add a compliment, which comes back to school and shared with the class and placed onto the PATHS display.

Through our PSHCE/SEALS lessons the children explore prejudice. The children learn about differences through looking at examples and discussing terms such as stereotyping, racism, prejudice, ethnicity and ethnic pride. All of these messages are reinforced by the Golden Rule of the Peace Mala. The lesson that we teach the children is that it is very important to respect themselves, others and belongings and this is emphasised through our new Peace Commitments; We Love, We are Compassionate, We Respect, We Forgive, We are Tolerant and We are Patient. (These replaced our old Golden Rules) An important lesson for the children is to understand that as children they have rights, but they also have responsibilities. In PSHCE, the children are taught all about the special rights that they have as children and they are encouraged to think of the responsibilities that come with this. This helps them to understand that as well as having rights, and children all over the world, also have to be responsible for their actions. As a school we have used the Peace Mala as a tool to heal the community and its troubles, bringing the people of Wythenshawe together into our hearts. We embrace that 'The Peace Mala' has opened the schools doors more; leading to the parents interacting more and making them accepting of the wonders of the celebrations that go on throughout the year and also more accepting of each other. It has helped us in supporting staff, children and families through troubled times.

We have a group of children whom we've dubbed 'The Charity Angels' led by one of our Ta's and local Labour councillors Mary Monaghan. These group of children, each term decide on a charity they are going to support, they create posters and share information about each charity in assemblies. One of their most successful events was getting the whole school involved in the Macmillan dress up and dance event. As the whole school gathered in our KS2 playground, near the end of the day, in their colourful outfits and danced



away to Bruno Mars, Uptown funk. An audience of parents were inspired to get involved too.

Earlier this year our beloved local heritage site, Wythenshawe Hall suffered severe damage after an arson attack, our Charity angels then organised a fundraiser to help with repairs gaining support from the parents and local community.



At our Harvest festival, which we celebrated in St Martins Church with the support of our friend Reverend Robyn Usher. We were introduced to a local food bank called the Tree of Life where our harvest donations were greatly received. After an inspiring talk from Heather about the centre our Charity angels have continued to support them by gathering resources, food and goods for the centre.



Celebrating Harvest Festival at St Martins Church.

We introduced the Peace Mala on the week of May 21st 2012 with a BIG BANG EVENTS WEEK- with many fantastic events and workshops. We had a variety of visitors to the school; starting on the Monday as we invited faith leaders in to speak to the children about their peace message and what peace means to their faith. After the assembly, Stephanie Glass from the Jewish Community commented that she had had the most fantastic debate (healthy debate) with Aidan Greenwood. She felt that the assembly had taught her many things about the other faiths that were represented. Stephanie took her Peace Mala bracelet and began to make it straight away commenting that she could not believe how wonderfully behaved children we had and also that she could only imagine what fantastic adults they would make because of the Peace Mala values.



We followed this day with introduction of the Peace Mala Educational DVD for all Years groups and explained that over the next week they would hear more and more about this. Parent's workshops were held in all year groups and the faiths beads were portrayed in many different ways in art workshops. The parents asked lots of questions during this time which was fantastic, as the school is predominately White British and some of our parents had been quite reluctant for their children to learn about some of the faiths through ignorance or fear of the unknown. We now have many parents asking when the next Peace Mala event is or hear the parents reminding the children that the Peace Mala bird is watching them to check that they are being nice and kind to others; especially in Reception and Nursery where the children are still learning the skills of sharing and communicating their needs without aggression. During the week we were visited by Tim Burgess who sculpted three owls whilst each year group watched. The children were told that the owls represented wisdom and knowledge that from that day forward, the children should keep the Peace Mala at the forefront of their thinking. The owls were made to face the different parts of the building; keeping a watchful eye on all of the children and staff as we began our Peace Mala Journey. As the school turned 60 that week we decided to link our peace events and ask each of the children to fill in their hope for peace on a luggage label. The labels were then placed on display on the large climbing frame in the hall for all of the children and their families to read. The week ended with a family Peace Mala event after school. The event had faith stalls and Peace Mala stall to inform the parents of our hope to become a Peace Mala school. On the Friday, the whole school (624 children) watched as the Peace Pole got planted and six major faith peace messages were released into the air as the whole school sang 'Make me a channel of your peace'.

One of our Peace Assemblies (September 2012) has included celebrating peace around the world on the United Nations International Day of Peace. All of the children in the school were taught I'd like to teach the world to sing and learnt the sign language to go with this. This was a huge achievement as we managed to fit all 624 children in our hall, there wasn't a dry eye from the staff as after we finished signing a child from Reception commented that the sign language for Peace is a smiley face because not hurting each other makes us all happy (as both hands start in the middle and work up towards the air as if to form a smile). Our assembly began with an introduction from Aidan Greenwood who is a local minister for the Wythenshawe Anglican Church Cluster. He explained all about the issues that the children in our local community face. He also explored his faith and the things that he has learnt from experiences in the area and how the Peace Mala shares his hope for Peace for our children. We watched a video on <http://peaceoneday.org/> and discussed with the children that we CAN make a change to the world we believe in. Balloons with the major faiths hope for peace message, which had the schools name and date on and our hope for peace were then released at

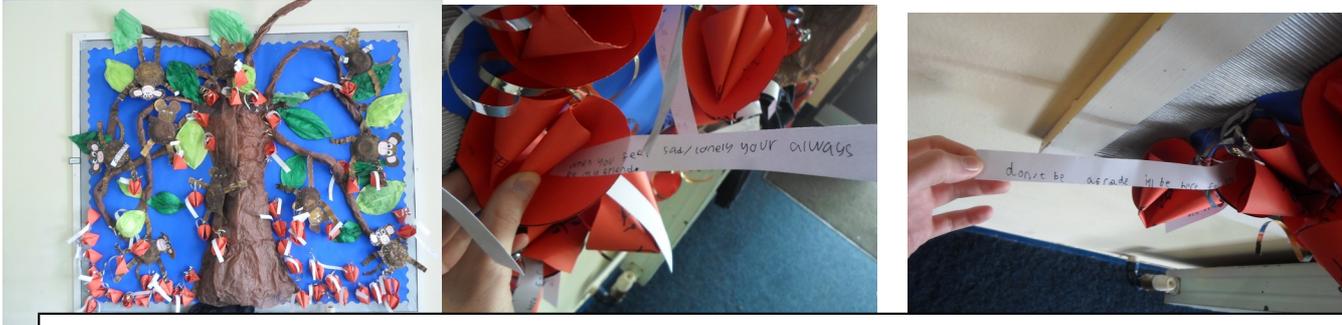
our peace pole and the words 'May Peace Prevail on Earth' was shared by the children and staff as each balloon flew away. Over the years we have continued celebrating International Peace Day and used it as a Peace Mala Big Bang event to refresh and remind the children of our peace promises and get them excited for the events coming up that year.

Area 3

By using Peace Mala in the classroom, the school supports human rights and helps prevent bullying and all forms of prejudice.

30 pupils gave a presentation at The Truce Ambassadors event, signing and singing 'I'd like to teach the world to sing' The presentation was about multi faith, culture and how the Peace Mala fits in with today's learning and the audience included local special guest speakers such as Sophie Lancaster's mother who gave a wonderful inspiring speech, Lord Baites and High Sherriff of Manchester. Newall Green is a community of around 720 children and adults. We ask the children to be mindful of the prejudice that surrounds certain faiths and culture in the world and we need to work to stop this. As the Peace Mala warns 'the voices of intolerance are all around us. The voice of tolerance needs to be louder.' This is the message we shared at the service with the ten other primary schools that were involved.

Our choir also performed at through the links made by their Peace Mala work, the staff and children have made a strong bond with the Buddhist Community in Trafford. On Sunday 12th May the school choir was invited to perform on the main stage at the Buddha's Birthday Celebrations. The children took part in many of the ceremonies including the Bathing the Buddha and Special Blessing before performing their hope for Peace songs. The ceremony was so moving that some of the staff cried. We have continued our special work with the Fo Guang Shang temple over the years inviting them in to school to share their Peace and also by continuing to attend the bathing of the Buddha when we have been able. Mr Whitehouse (along with Shelley Lynton) were invited to join in the temples New Year celebrations this year, taking part in traditional ceremonies and services as representatives of our school. Pictures and videos from the late night event were shared in our own schools Chinese New Year celebration assembly helping enthuse the children with their activities throughout the day, which they later shared in another assembly. A stand out activity was the year twos fortune cookies. Each child made their own paper fortune cookie and wrote their own messages of peace and kindness. These have been displayed near the KS1 playground so that children who are feeling sad or lonely can read them with support of that week's Peace Pals.



Year 2's friendship fortune cookies.

Children in Nursery, Reception and Key Stage One have a quality introduction to the actual lives of children of different faiths and cultures. Children are shown 'Child's Eye Media' films of faith and culture as seen from the view point of children their age. Child's Eye Media's Theresa Teng who stars with her family in the Chinese New Year part of the DVD has actually visited our school and ran workshops for the whole school; such as origami and Chinese calligraphy, the various workshops included a music workshop where the children had the chance to play traditional musical instruments from the Chinese culture.

The Early Years Foundation Stage aged children have the chance to link their learning in their role play areas and their learning is linked at various points of the years to the different celebrations and events around the world. Our aim is to highlight and celebrate both cultural differences and similarities in order to challenge all forms of prejudice and stereotyping. The children look at children around the world who do not have basic human rights. We have had special guest speakers such as Mike Newman bank manager's the first blind man to drive a car at more than 200mph. He was inspirational speaker who shared with us all of his breath taking dare devil challenges that he had successfully completed. It allowed the children to see some of the disadvantages of disability as well as the power of self-belief and determination to succeed against all odds.

The staff also knitted many small suits for the 'Fish and Chip Babies in Uganda. These small knitted suits are very important because in Africa the nights can be very cold and the babies have nothing else to keep them warm. The jumpers and hats can also help to prevent them from catching pneumonia. These were suits were shown to the children and it was emphasised by the staff that a baby is special and deserves a better start in life than yesterday's newspaper. We also had visits from the Guide Dog Association and Manchester Mission. All speakers enable the children to have a greater understanding of why we raise money for charity through organisations such as Children in Need and Comic/ Sport Relief, and how we can help.

As with most schools we have an anti- bullying policy and bullying is a lesson that is taught in each year group through lessons and also through

SEAL assemblies. In relation to this we have friendship stops, Peace Pals (who offer friendship and support in the playground) and can engage with at playtimes. As part of our Cyprus celebrations, we celebrated the festival of hope. Ten countries were involved and the children had a fabulous time at the procession in Kyrenia. The children gave Peace Mala kits to the teachers from the different countries involved in the hope that the message would be spread world-wide. The children performed a wonderful dance with other schools from across the world and watched a fantastic fireworks display to celebrate all of the countries sharing this hope for Peace at a castle on the last night. The children performed their dance in front of many dignitaries and attended Parliament in Cyprus. They met the speaker of the house; he said how wonderful the children were (fantastic Peace Mala Representatives). The children had the opportunity to sit in Parliament and some of the children sat in the speaker's seat! The trip was a huge success and we have continued to join in this biannual event. This trip has also opened up doors for more international events. At the moment we are in the process of getting involved in the Famagusta children's festival in Cyprus where we hope to do further work on spreading the peace mala message. This festival includes both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot citizens of the divided city. We hope that we can support this festival with the Peace Mala.

Area 4

Peace Mala encourages the school to raise awareness of issues of global interdependence and encourages active compassion by learners that will lead to positive changes locally and globally.

As a school we regularly give to charities. We raise money through a variety of means including own clothes days and it is a wonderful way to get the children involved and give them a deeper understanding of how we can be compassionate and work towards making both local and global positive changes. We often have visitors in to talk about their charities, to explain to the children what they are about and how they can help. For example, This year we had a spokesperson from the Dogs Trust charity who spoke to the children about the hard work these animals do for other

people in need of their help in an assembly and visits with a guide dog happened during class drop ins.



The children have learnt all about people and organisations that have made a difference to the world. This involved learning about numerous charities, their founders and numerous people who have helped to make the world a better place through raising money, charities, technology, science etc. During our 2015 International Peace Day celebrations the year 6's learnt about Malala Yousafzai and evolved into a class debate about girl's rights to education. This helped empower a lot of our year 6 girls who made a promise to make the most of their education. Along the corridors, we have displays of inspirational quotes from inspirational people to encourage the children to fulfil their potential and reach their goals. This year we have seen some new inspirational murals painted on the walls by **local artist**...



We have many links with the different places of worship and faith leaders in the community and beyond. We have regular contact with Bolton Hindu Forum, Wythenshawe Anglican Church Cluster, The Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Temple and Stephanie Glass from the Manchester Standing Committee for Jewish Education. They all then share their experiences in assemblies, using photographs and resources to enhance children's understanding. One of our favourite assemblies this year was our 'Harvest with a difference', it was great for the children to see the similarities through the faiths, as we compared the traditions and values of Buddhism, Christianity and Judaism as well as giving the faith leaders an insight into how other faiths celebrate

In June 2012, three of the teachers from Newall Green went out to Zambia to teach for 2 weeks. They held a series of Peace Mala workshops which included peace mala t-shirt designing, bracelets (bigger beads for younger children) for the 40 children, Peace Mala bracelet Workshop making for the staff, older children and school leaders. All workshops were extremely popular and the children engaged fully. At school each year group was

asked to fill a pencil case to give a child in Zambia to the tools to learn. The staff said there wasn't a dry eye around when the children received these and the children's reactions were simply breath taking as they received their very own pencil case.

It was an interesting experience for the teachers as they shared the Peace Mala values. The children and staff signed a peace flag, and made the promise in Zambia, the same as all of the year groups at Newall Green have; to say that they are committed to keeping the Peace Mala promise. As mentioned previously this work has been continued in 2013, 2014 and 2015. Our children continue to raise money and donate stationery each year.

Children at Newall Green have a rich tapestry of exposure to visual and oral representations of faith, enabling our community to work together with tolerance and understanding. As part of our RE lessons in 2013 each of the year group were invited to have a go at taking part in the Bathing of the Buddha Ceremony. The visit which took place over 3 days, saw every child visit the Buddhist temple, it is a great way for children to see first-hand how Buddhists worship and what their beliefs are. This encourages understanding and compassion for all people. The Buddhist monks also came to our school and blessed our school too. Following this, the choir and Head teacher Mrs Rudd took part in the Wesak celebration at the temple, which takes place at the Taurean full moon each May. The choir wearing their singing for peace took to the stage and sang 'What a wonderful World' it was a fantastic occasion and we had an article in it the local press to highlight our achievement in the local press. We are hoping to organise a similar trip for the whole school with our friends at the Ghita Bhavan Hindu Temple next year.

At Newall Green the children aren't fortunate enough to travel to different countries, to address this we have special days which look at the various countries and continents around the world and have enjoyed learning about their cultures, dress, food, languages etc. The children have tasted food from around the world and have explored where countries are in relation to England. The children then take part in special assemblies to share what they have learnt about their country with the different year groups to make sure we have vast coverage. This year our school decided to change our foreign language from French to Spanish and join in a special Spanish day celebration. The different year groups experimented with Spanish foods, dances, music and art. All topped off by a celebration assembly from our own Spanish teacher.

We have a gardening club the children picked ripe carrots, tomatoes, potatoes and onions from our school vegetable patch. The produce was made into a soup in cooking club. The children take part in the club at lunch time and are extremely proud of the area that they have created.

Peace Mala encourages the celebration of cultural, racial and religious diversity through art, music, drama and dance.

For the past two years we have been working with two other schools (Zambia and Cyprus) as part of our Peace Mala commitment. During the experience we have taken part in a number of joint projects and each school has taken it in turn to host teachers and pupils from the other schools. We are enjoying collecting cultural information about the participating countries, learning to communicate in a foreign language and become more tolerant towards different cultures.

Our aim is to teach the children about Muteteshi Basic School in Zambia and the difficulties that the families face, in particular. The children are given ownership over their learning as we ask them children which aspects of African culture they are keen to know more about. Their interests range from the education that children take part in, to the traditions and culture of the children when they are at home. The children love hearing about the staff experiences in Zambia what they have been up to and sharing our news about their up and coming trip out there. Our hard work and fundraising has also helped us to organise reciprocal visits for the Zambian teachers both in 2013 and 2015. The teachers have come over to see how we use peace mala in our other subjects as well as being given the chance to observed maths and English lessons. On their visit here in 2013 The Zambian teachers were interested in how we work with our families and local community. Sharing how we do this through the peace mala work we do was very inspiring and on our return visit in 2014 we were invited to attend a Health Day organised by one of our link schools Mwash. Free aids tests for children and health advice were included. Our own children had helped collect toothbrushes and toothpaste to donate and these were given out by members of the Zambaid team at the event. The event was a huge success and even included a visit from their local Education Debs (District Education Board Secretary) & District Commissioner, Patrick Chisala who thanked us and our schools for their kind efforts. Teachers and children alike have learnt a great deal about Zambia and we all feel that we are growing into global citizens through these experiences. On their visit to our school in 2015 the teachers met with our Peace Council where the children informed them of the peace mala work we have been doing. They then worked with the Zambian teachers to create a display to celebrate our friendship. This is displayed just outside our main hall for the staff and children to see as they enter the hall each day for their assembly.



The children in Reception and Key Stage One experienced a taster session of traditional African drumming. The workshop allowed the children to take part in the use of the instruments as well as engaging in a fun and energetic dance lesson where they learnt about movement and rhythm and ended with a group performance. The whole experience taught children to appreciate different styles of traditional dancing and the uplifting beat of an African drum. In Year 1 the Zambian teachers joined the year 1 children for their Zambia topic celebrations and helped answer questions the children had about their culture. The teachers ended their visit by showing the children how to make their traditional staple dish of N'shima, using a traditional tin cooking brazier.

Over the past two years we have been involved in Pop Uk events. This company comes into school and gives schools the opportunities to involve the whole school in learning, recording and performing memorable pop songs with lyrics that teach life affirming values, shaping children for their future. Over a week the children go to rehearsals and produce the school's very own pop album. Our Pop Uk Workshops have helped teachers strengthen their teaching of Music, PSHE, SMSC, Citizenship and RE through discussion of the lyrics and how this links with our Peace Mala Promise. This all builds up to a huge event. It has helped deepen relationships with parents and community as the children perform a high profile concert at the local high school. We continue to use these songs in other celebrations and Peace Mala events. The children loved this experience and we hope to continue working with them in the future and holding a bigger Peace concert in the local community.



Area 6

With Peace Mala the school actively promotes environmental sustainability, healthy eating, and respect for all animals and wildlife.

At Newall Green, the children and teachers are encouraged to work on the promotion and understanding of the concept of peace both locally and nationally. Our environmental work particularly helps as most environmental problems transcend national boundaries and therefore require solutions that are mutually reinforced at global, regional, national and community levels.

Environmental sustainability plays a large part in our school life as is evidenced by our Silver Level Eco Award and us currently aiming to become a Green Flag School. We are fortunate to have amazing outdoor areas at our school that we fully engage with in our lessons and the children are always reminded to take care of the environment and be respectful of the animals and living things around us.

The whole school is involved in planting and growing their own seeds, and then using the food they produce in our school kitchen. We are all eagerly awaiting what crops we will reap! We have our very own chickens and a chicken coup that houses our three special guests. The selected group of children have been taught to take care of the chickens, collect their eggs and then date them in preparation for selling. These eggs are very popular with the staff and it is very rare that the children haven't sold every last one on a Friday afternoon. The children are all eager to be part of the 'chicken club' so much so that the children have to be changed each half term to give everyone a chance. They work hard to ensure our chickens live a healthy life, by cleaning out their coop and supplying them with food, fresh water and the occasional treat. Our free range chickens live in our peace garden and are free to roam around it daily.

The children have lessons on Healthy Eating during PSHCE and through various science topics across the school. They learn all about food groups, benefits of each group and how to produce a healthy plate of food. The hot lunches provided by the school kitchen are also nutritious and well balanced. In 2014 we started a farming project where a group of children were tasked to teach some farming school to help us grow our own vegetables at school. We had bi weekly trips to the local farm where we met with some children from Newall Green high who were there to mentor us. We kept a diary of our hard work which went to our Zambia trip in summer 2014 where Mr Whitehouse's mission was to help create a farming area at Muteteshi basic school, the money the children raised helped buy hosepipes, tools and crops to grow. Mr Whitehouse was expecting to help teach the children how to care for the crops they had planted but in fact became the student as the children taught him the traditional ways of farming in Zambia. We were then able to recreate some of these methods back at school.

This helped to create a boost in the schools outlook on outdoor learning, adding it into our schools mission statement. Over the past few years outdoor learning in our school has become a big focus and has enabled us to work more closely with the local community. We have worked with one

of our parents who runs a youth community club called 'Milky Buttons' to help clean up the local community. We have worked with her and her team to help clear up litter and also with planting bulbs and trees in local parks and play areas.

We have also been able to do similar activities at Wythenshawe park, where staff taught our children about conservation and bush craft. We have worked with staff from the RSPB with their 'Give Nature a Home' project and had sessions in our own school, this led to the implementation of bird boxes which we were able to rig with cameras for a live feed on our school website so that the children can watch the birds at school and at home.

Mr Whitehouse is the schools Forest School teacher and has worked with different year groups in our local woodland just behind school. In these sessions the children learn how to take care of our local woodland, by identifying local trees, plants and wildlife. Over the last few years they have been involved in creating natural pathways for humans so that they do not trample on and damage the plants, tree and wildflower planting, and caring for minibeasts. Mrs Chapman and Miss Barnes are currently leading a group of children with more conservation work in the woods and are working on becoming 'Guardians of the Woods' with help from the local councillor.

Area 7

With Peace Mala the school encourages Peace Education by forming a School Peace Council and engaging in peace activities.

At the front of our school we have a large Peace Mala bird and in our school hall two large Peace Mala birds and the peace mala logo (all created by the children) which children love as they are extremely striking. They are used as visual reminders for the children; showing them the expectations that we have as they enter the school building. We have a few special rooms which can be used to have peaceful and calm thoughts in. The acorn and woodland rooms allow children with specific learning to have some quieter small group work with children of similar abilities or learning needs; even if this means teaching across the year groups or age phases. It is especially good for the BA children, enabling them to do better at school and develop their latent talents. We also have Coral Cove this room has a quiet reflection place. The children that have access to Coral Cove are usually those who have social and emotional difficulties and find it hard to access or join in with school life. The use of 'learning mentors' within the Coral Cove, has seen a significant decrease in acts of violence and disruption in KS2 and more recently KS1 by

establishing provision for disruptive pupils and developing the children's understanding of what is or is not considered as acceptable behaviour. The Peace Mala values are referred to and constantly used as a means teaching the children the importance of valuing and respecting both the school environment and the other children's feelings that attend our school. Currently Mrs Thompson, is working with groups of children using the wellbeing support pack to help destress children through meditative and reflective activities.

We also have a peace garden where the children can gather for Peace and reflection. This is home to our two metre peace pole. We also have a newly built outdoor play area. The outside area has a Peace Pavilion that can seat 30 children for outdoor lessons or peace workshops in groups of 30. We are currently developing our outdoor area further with different concepts that will promote the Peace Mala. We have also had another visit from Tim Burgess Who created a beautiful dove of peace for our garden.

We participated in the ***PPI Truce Inspire 'We are human first' workshop*** at Gorton Monastery in Manchester.

This began with an assembly where the PPI Founder John Farrington addressed the whole school encouraging them to think about what peace sounds like and what it means to them.

Children were then involved in making a short film about bullying. The whole day was filmed and children were asked to express what bullying had meant to them. The children then proudly received their Truce Ambassadors badges and certificates on the day and represented the rest of the schools as we learnt our new peace song on the day on stage with Lucinda Drayton.