

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week is World Retinoblastoma Awareness Week. I would like to take this opportunity to raise awareness of childhood cancer and to share the signs and symptoms with parents and carers. Especially the importance of regular eye tests and the knowledge of utilising flash photography to identify a white reflex (please see signs and symptoms leaflet attached for further information).



This subject is incredibly close to my heart as my son, Seb was diagnosed with eye cancer (retinoblastoma) at 9 months old. I was not aware of the white reflex myself and have since been helping to raise awareness of this and other signs of childhood cancer to help early diagnosis.

For the children, we would like to focus on celebrating difference. I will be sharing a video clip of the inspiring Lucy from Channel 4's 'The Piano' (who had retinoblastomas as a baby) showcasing her incredible musical talent. We will talk about visual impairment and celebrate the successes of a range of individuals with a visual impairment. We will also talk about and celebrate those who help us including nurses, doctors and play therapists.

We will be having a **Crazy Glasses Day** on **Thursday 23rd May**. We would love for all the children to join us in donning a pair of crazy glasses (alongside normal school uniform)! If you would like to donate to this incredible charity please scan the QR code below, visit www.chect.org.uk/donate or there will be a collection tin at the main office.



Thank you so much in advance, for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Burrell
Special Educational Needs and
Disabilities Co-ordinator

Attachments:

- Crazy Glasses Day poster (Thursday 23rd May)
- Glasses template that can be printed and decorated
- Our Story poster
- Retinoblastoma signs and symptoms (CHECT)
- Grace Kelly Ladybird Trust Childhood Cancer Signs

