

**24<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

## **My Voice Matters**

Dear Parent / Carer,

Something very exciting is happening tomorrow where our school will showcase its wonderful children at a national event.

You may know that some schools within our cluster of 11 Elland schools take part in a project called My Voice Matters. This is a programme with children at its centre and children's voices at its heart. The central aim is to engage children in Literacy through a wide variety of activities, such as Forest School, through music specialists or following regular visits from a poet. Myself, alongside the other Headteachers involved, believe that My Voice Matters has had a hugely positive impact on children's engagement in school, confidence to share their own voice, mental health and love of 'the arts'... and now this is being recognised nationally.

Four local schools are sharing what My Voice Matters is at tomorrow's Music Mark Conference in Newcastle. As part of the conference presentation, our Year 4 class has been filmed in a My Voice Matters lesson at school. Furthermore, some of our Year 5 and Year 6 children have been recorded talking about their previous experiences of My Voice Matters. Our children are the stars of the showcase!

Excitingly, six children from Bowling Green have been selected by our My Voice Matters visitors to attend the conference in Newcastle, too. The children will be showcasing a 'live lesson' of what My Voice Matters is to a group of musicians in the hope that similar schemes may be started nationally.

I am sure you will join me in sending these six children good luck for tomorrow and also by congratulating all our children who have been recorded by a professional film crew talking about – and participating in - My Voice Matters.

Hopefully I will be able to share the presentation with you all soon.

With best wishes (and feeling very proud of our children!),



Mr Stuttard  
Principal