

anti-bullying alliance

8 June 2011

Dear Head Teacher,

GET READY FOR ANTI-BULLYING WEEK, 14 - 18 NOVEMBER 2011

THE THEME

'Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me.'

We've all heard someone say this at one time or other - we may have said it ourselves, but how true is it? Anti-bullying week 2011 is focussed on tackling verbal bullying, with the slogan 'Stop and think - words can hurt'. Young people at the ABA Youth Summit 2010 said name-calling and offensive language is a serious concern in schools, the community, and in cyberspace. This year we ask children and young people to stop and think about the things they say, and the words they use - whether face to face or through the internet. This includes the use of words and phrases that are homophobic, sexist, racist or hurtful to children with special educational needs and disabilities.

COMPETITION NOW LAUNCHED

WIN THE CHANCE TO BECOME ROCKSTARS FOR A DAY!

ABA has teamed up with *Stand Tall: A Rock Musical* to launch a competition open to all schools that has the backing of Award winning author Philip Pullman. Schools that enter the competition could win the chance to work with producers to record a song from the show.

Stand Tall: A Rock Musical is a modern reworking of the story of David and Goliath - gone is the sling - to be replaced with an electric guitar! The musical has a strong anti-bullying theme - that will appeal to both primary and secondary school age children. Entry to the competition is simple - we have provided a short powerpoint presentation that can be used in an assembly or in class time to get students thinking about Anti-Bullying Week 2011, and to introduce 3 songs from the show. Students vote for the song they think best gets an anti-bullying message across. You then submit your song choice through our [website](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk) to be entered into the prize draw.

The competition is now open - deadline for entries is **5pm, Friday 29th July**. For full guidelines on how to enter [visit our website](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk).

LOOK OUT FOR THE ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2011 RESOURCE PACK

We know how supportive schools are of Anti-Bullying Week. Around mid-September, ABA will send an electronic resource pack to all schools to help you plan this year's activities. The pack includes:

- information on the week for school leaders, governors and teachers
- ideas for lessons plans and activities
- guidance for parents and carers
- ideas for student involvement
- links to ABA member resources

For regular updates on Anti-Bullying week 2011 [visit our website](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk).

About Anti-Bullying Alliance

Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) is a unique coalition of anti-bullying organisations with over 100 members. ABA works all year round to reduce bullying, and to create safer environments where children and young people can live, grow, play and learn.

The **ABA School and College Network** has been created to meet the specific needs of those working in the education sector. To find out how you can keep up-to-date through monthly e-bulletins and receive some free resources visit the SCN pages on our [website](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk).

Visit the ABA website now to find out more about our work: www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

BUY MERCHANDISE FROM THE ABA SHOP

From September you can buy specially designed pencils, posters and stickers for Anti-Bullying Week 2011. Details of prices and how to order will be available in the Anti-Bullying Week 2011 resource pack and through [our website](#).

PLAN A BLUE MONDAY EVENT

In response to feedback from schools and ABA members, we have decided to change Blue Friday to **BLUE MONDAY (14 November)**. This is the day when we encourage all children and young people to stand up and show their support for Anti-Bullying Week. There are lots of ways your school can take part and kick start the week - such as wearing blue for the day or baking blue cakes! You could even use events on Blue Monday to fundraise for the work of the Anti-Bullying Alliance. There will be more ideas in the Anti-Bullying Week 2011 resource pack and coming soon on [our website](#).



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Anti-Bullying Alliance is a partnership body based at National Children's Bureau.

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