

TGPA Yew Tree
Wherretts Well Lane
Solihull
B91 2SD

Monday 5th February

Dear Mrs Maclean,

All Tudor Grange schools are seen as outstanding, popular and well-run schools, this is due to your hard work. As children leave your schools, they will have the essentials to have a good job and get paid a good wage. However, this will not happen for the small children involved in child labour. These small children working their tiny hands all day to help their families to put food and water in front of them to make equipment. Equipment that some of your schools may use that they have made.

Whilst children at your amazing schools are learning, making friends, and playing footballs, some children in different parts of the world are making the footballs and dreaming of a proper childhood. 152 million children worldwide are involved in child labour and this is unfair.

We need to find out where the equipment is being made by checking if it was made in a Child Labour Free zone. We need to make sure that children were not involved by asking where it was made. We need to buy fairtrade equipment, so we know that people are being fairly paid by checking for the fairtrade label on the equipment.

Over the past few days our class has been reading the life changing book 'Kick' by Mitch Johnson. Budi (the main character) has a lifelong dream of playing football instead of making them. He really wants to be on his national team but alas he is in child labour wishing he could be in one of your inspirational schools.

Even though this is fiction it is also a door to reality as in some places in the world stuff like this happens in places hard to control. This terrible practice must stop. This happens in places such as Pakistan, Myanmar, and Latin America but fairtrade can help people get paid fairly for their work.

70% of handstitched footballs are made in Pakistan and around 7,000 people including children work 11 hours a day to make these balls. In 1997 an agreement was signed to make sure children do not make the footballs but we know that it still happens in some rural areas.

All those poor innocent children dreaming of being in one of your outstanding schools, instead stuck in the cycle of poverty. Fairtrade makes sure that workers who make the footballs are paid fairly for their long hours of hard work and by giving the workers clean water, transport to their work. So that is the reason that we should use fairtrade items even if it costs a bit more this is our chance to help stop the cycle of poverty.

We urge your schools to use fairtrade to help stop the cycle of poverty forever and to help everyone get a good education. Even if it is only one small change if everyone did it then it would make a big difference.

Yours sincerely,

Robbie