

THE ROTARY "END POLIO NOW" CAMPAIGN

It was a real pleasure to hear Dave Shoemaker talking in assembly last week about the good work of the Rotary Club in trying to eradicate polio worldwide. For those parents who were not able to be with us we have added some information below:

The Polio Vaccine was introduced in 1950 at a time when Polio was considered to be one of the most frightening public health problems in the world. In 1988 there were 350,000 cases of polio annually, in 125 countries, about 1,000 cases per day. In 1985 Rotary clubs and their partners worldwide decided to do something, and that was to eradicate Polio worldwide. Teams of volunteers were sent out to administer the vaccines, and to train other local volunteers to assist in the effort. As a child in a village is vaccinated, a finger is marked with a Purple dye to show that it has been vaccinated. Of the hundreds of thousands of cases threatening the world less than 30 years ago, the figure is down by more than 99.9 per cent with fewer than 400 cases in the entire world in 2014. The fight is far from over since the disease is still devastating Pakistan and Afghanistan with cases still being reported and Rotary are still carrying on the fight to rid those countries of the disease. The World Health Organisation in July of this year confirmed that Nigeria has reported no new cases of Polio. In August it was declared that no new cases of Polio have been detected in Somalia since 11 August 2014. This is the longest that Africa has ever gone without a case of Polio.

Rotary's efforts have been described as one of the finest humanitarian projects the world has ever known and Rotary was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for its work in the eradication task.

The children have been invited to select a name for a special teddy bear that we have in the school office. Names cost 50p each. Lots of the names have already gone but there are still a few to go!



PTA QUIZ NIGHT

**QUIZ NIGHT IS BACK ON
FRIDAY 20th NOVEMBER.**

**ENTRY FORM ARE
AVAILABLE FROM THE
SCHOOL OFFICE BUT BOOK
QUICKLY AS PLACES ARE
LIMITED!**