



Rotary
District 1070



Rotary Stars Citizenship Awards (District 1070) – Information for teachers

What is Rotary?

- A worldwide volunteer organisation of 1.2 million men and women members. There are about 32,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries.
- Rotary promotes good citizenship with a motto of 'Service above Self'. There are a number of Rotary Clubs in your local area..
- A very important element of Rotary is to support and encourage local young people and the '**Rotary Star Award**' is just one of the many initiatives.

What is the 'Rotary Stars' Citizenship Award?

A Rotary District 1070 project which offers an opportunity to recognise and reward primary school age children for acts of good citizenship.

How does it work?

It really is simple.

- A member of a local Rotary Club makes an appointment to discuss the project with the head teacher.
- The head teacher is asked to nominate a certain number (club/school decides number) of children who have been exceptionally good citizens by helping / supporting others, the environment, their school, their community etc. in effect they would be demonstrating 'Service above Self'.
- The local Rotary Club recognises and rewards this good citizenship by presenting children with:
 - A Rotary Star certificate
 - A Rotary Star badge
 - An optional monetary token of appreciation (often a book token to the value of £5). However, club decides type of token and amount – often in consultation with the head teacher.

Is it an easy project to run?

Yes – it involves a relatively small amount of work by both Rotary Club and school yet the rewards for individual children are immense. The cost to clubs is minimal.

Why is 'Rotary Stars' such a worthwhile project?

Whereas the majority of Rotary Youth Service projects / competitions cater predominantly for gifted and talented children, ***the 'Rotary Stars' project is open and suitable for all children irrespective of age, talent or academic ability. It is all down to personal achievement with no competition element.***

What do teachers say about 'Rotary Stars'?

- "The effects of this project on Citizenship and Community Involvement by our youngsters has been amazing. Rotary has provided the carrot to which they have responded"
Mr Richard Meekings Great Addington PS.
- "I sleep at night knowing projects like this exist it's not all about tests, tests, tests."
Mr David Armstrong Previous Deputy Head Irthlingborough Junior School

- “Rotary has given us the opportunity to recognise and reward children from outside the normal school curriculum, this has done wonders for their self esteem.”
Mrs Lucy Deakin Dep Head Croyland PS Wellingborough
- “This is a lovely project for our children; every child has the opportunity to be a Rotary Star...”
Mrs Stephanie McKim Danesholme Primary School, Corby.
- “Thank you Rotary for the opportunity to allow our stars to shine.”
Mrs Angela Gyves, Cranford Primary School.

Can you give me examples of good citizenship?

Yes – Refer to page 3 of this information sheet. However, the criteria is always open to discussion.

What does our school get out of running a Rotary Stars project?

It will enhance the profile of your school in your local community. It offers great opportunities for local press coverage (photos of children being ‘good citizens’ preferable to photos of presentations). The satisfaction of making a difference to children in your school.

Could my school run a Rotary Stars project?

Yes – *For all the reasons listed above. What are you waiting for?*

Are there other Rotary citizenship awards?

Yes – There is an RIBI **Young Citizen Award & Competition** which is aimed predominantly at 11 to 23 year olds although younger children can be entered.

For information go to: <http://rotary1070.org/youth>

Who can I contact for more information?

Your local Rotary club

What some Children did to become Rotary Stars...

- Fundraising... Three girls worked together to raise money for Great Ormond Street Hospital, they organised a sponsored silence and a cake stall.
- Organisation of disco for younger children.
- Looking after granny helping her with her shopping.
- One little boy was recognised for his caring attitude toward his brother, who suffers from cerebral palsy.
- Several children recognised for caring for parents.
- Raising awareness of Environmental Issues.
- Saving up to buy a goat for Africa.
- Time and effort put into organising stalls for the school fair.
- Showing a caring nature for younger children in the school.
- Three lads were recognised for arranging the police to visit the local playing field so younger children were not bullied.
- Some for having a helpful attitude in school.
- General enthusiasm, effort and good attitudes in school.
- Brightening up everybody's day with their smile.
- Stopping a fight in the playground.
- Looking after and caring for school animals.
- Commitment to school choir, orchestra etc.
- Raising money by starting their own Pencil Pot Company in Schools.
- Giving presentations on behalf of the school.
- One little girl sold eggs from her hens, called Mabel and Henrietta, to raise money for charity.
- Fighting leukaemia.
- Taking part in Race for Life.
- Raising money for a school in Africa.
- Organising a McMillan Coffee Morning fund raising event.
- Cutting her long hair to make wigs for children suffering from cancer

