


September 2008

c/o Save the Children  
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Dear Principal,

**Re: Anti-Bullying Week 2008: supported by** 

To mark Anti-Bullying Week 2008 the Northern Ireland Anti-Bullying Forum (NIABF), supported by Translink, would like to invite schools to encourage and support their pupils' participation in a short story competition.

The theme of this year's Anti-Bullying Week is '**tackling the fear of being bullied in a new school**', and short stories should be connected to this topic.

Children arrive in a new school for many reasons: at transition stages or for a range of other family, social or educational factors, and often the fear of being bullied compounds other doubts and worries they might have about the unfamiliarity of a new school environment.

The competition is open to pupils of all primary, post-primary, hospital and special schools in the north of Ireland. There will be a number of prizes with a Presentation Ceremony for all winners and runners-up, which will take place during Anti-Bullying Week. All children who enter the competition will receive a personalised certificate.

#### **To enter the short story competition**

Please read the School Preparation Pack enclosed and support pupils to:

- \* write their story (in school or at home)
- \* fill out the enclosed entry form and attach it to a copy of their story
- \* post it to: NIABF Short Story Competition, c/o Save the Children, 15 Richmond Park, Belfast, BT10 0HB

(Please note schools can post multiple entries in the one envelope but each pupil's work must be securely attached to one application form accompanying a copy of their story)

**Closing date for receipt of entries is Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2008. No late entries can be accepted.**

Further entry forms can be downloaded from NIABF's website ([www.niabf.org.uk](http://www.niabf.org.uk)).

If you would like to discuss this competition or Anti-Bullying Week please contact Leslie-Anne Newton by emailing [info@niabf.org.uk](mailto:info@niabf.org.uk) or phoning 028 9043 1123.

I look forward to receiving pupils' entries to this competition as part of Anti-Bullying Week 2008.

**Advance notification**

In Spring term 2009, NIABF proposes to invite schools to work collaboratively with an/other school(s) in their area (e.g. a post-primary alongside one or more primary schools) to develop and deliver a pupil-led play or assembly on the theme of 'fear of being bullied' during school transition. Ideas generated through the short story competition will contribute to guidance produced for this Spring initiative. The best proposals for staging a play or assembly will receive a small financial award to defray costs, in addition to other publicity recognition.

Further information will be available in January 2009.

Yours sincerely



**Leslie-Anne Newton**

Regional Anti-Bullying Coordinator, NIABF

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2008?**  
**'Tackling the fear of being bullied in a new school'**

This is the fourth year of having a dedicated Anti-Bullying Week (17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> November 2008) in Northern Ireland, with this year's chosen focus being "**Bullying of Newly Arrived Pupils**".

Northern Ireland Anti-Bullying Forum (NIABF) is committed to promoting the proactive anti-bullying work of schools and during Anti-Bullying Week, both locally and regionally. In 2007 NIABF secured over 20 newspaper articles, 3 radio interviews and 2 television interviews referring to local schools and their work.

To help us promote the work of your school please complete the form below, highlighting all anti-bullying activity that your school is delivering to pupils across Year Groups. NIABF (with your consent) will share the information you have supplied to the media enabling them to showcase school anti-bullying activities within the relevant local area.

Name: School:	Position:
Address:	
Tel:	Email:
For Anti-Bullying Week 2008 we are planning:	
Please tick if school consents to this activity synopsis, school name and contact name being shared with the media by NIABF <input type="checkbox"/>	
Please tick if your school would like to be included on NIABF information distribution list <input type="checkbox"/>	

This form should be faxed to 028 9043 1314 no later than  
**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2008.**

For further information or to discuss please contact Leslie-Anne Newton on 028 9043 1123.