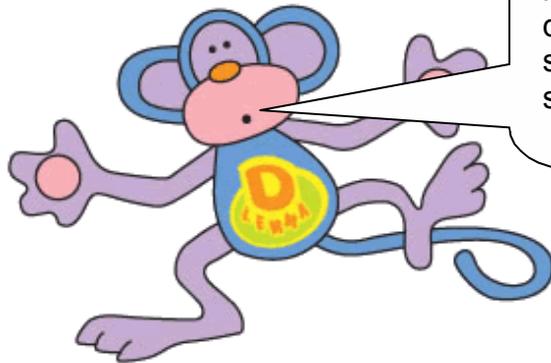


Di Lemma makes up a new rule



Hi everyone, Di Lemma here again. I have decided to ask my school to make a new school rule.

It had been Di Lemma's friend John's, birthday at the weekend and he had got a new mobile. He was really pleased with it and Di Lemma was really interested in it too.

When they got to school on Monday, John had brought the phone with him, all through break time he played with his phone. On the Tuesday he did the same thing, but this time he hung around with some other children that had phones, Di Lemma was getting a bit fed up.

On the Wednesday during their maths lesson his phone rang and the teacher was really cross and took the phone off John.

Di Lemma was quite pleased that John had his phone taken away. Do you think it right to have a mobile phone at school, especially during lessons?

After the maths lesson Di Lemma, his teacher called him over to the desk "Are you ok? You seem very fed up"

"Well I am really, I am getting cross with everyone having their phones at school, nobody wants to play football."

"I agree" said the teacher. "Its annoying having them ringing in the classroom."

Is Di Lemma right to talk to the teacher about this? What could they both do next to sort out the problem?

"I think we should have a word with Mrs Campbell, and tell her that the mobile phones are becoming a problem" said his teacher.

Di Lemma had already been a bit worried about complaining to his teacher but to now have to go and talk to the head teacher, he was really nervous.

Do you think that everyone else finds mobile phones at school a problem?

Di Lemma knew that some of his friends would be unhappy about him talking to the teachers about phones not being allowed in the playground, but he felt quite strongly about people being left out because they didn't have the same phones.

The next day, Mrs Campbell called Di Lemma and his teacher to her office to explain the problem. The teacher explained that phones were very distracting in the classroom and Di Lemma said that the children were playing with their phones and not playing football or going outside. "So what are you asking me to do?" Mrs Campbell asked

What do you think Di Lemma and his teacher want Mrs Campbell to do?

"I think they should be banned from the playground" said Di Lemma
"The other teachers and I think they should not be allowed on in the classroom" the teacher said. "I think it should be a school rule, no mobile phones in school." Di Lemma said.

Do you think this new rule is fair? Why reasons might the pupils have for bringing mobiles to school?

"Well I do agree, but I don't think we can ban them, because some parents want their children to use them for safety reasons. What is the new rule is that mobile phones must be handed in at reception in the morning and then collected after school?" Mrs Campbell said.

Does that seem fair? Will it be better if Di Lemma and the others without phones aren't left out? Will the pupils get more work done if they are concentrating on their work?

Di Lemma, his maths teacher and the Head Teacher had come up with a new rule about mobile phones that they all felt was fair. So that nobody could say they didn't know the rules, Mrs Campbell sent a letter home with all the children to give to their parents.

Some of the children complained at first, but they soon went back to playing football together. The parents were pleased that their children were concentrating on their work, but could still contact them on their way home if they needed to.

What steps did Di Lemma have to go through to make changes to the school rules? What support did he have? Why are new rules created?

Di Lemma says bye until next time.....