**LET’S CROSS COLOUR AND OTHER DIVIDES – TEACHER’S GUIDE TO LESSON 4**

1. Remind the class that:
   1. “Say ‘Hello’ Pete!” introduced the idea that we shouldn’t think of people who speak different languages or are from different countries or places as being any better or worse than us just because they speak differently or have a different background – rather we should try to talk to people of different backgrounds because if we all start being nicer to each other the world could be a better place.
   2. “Pete the Faithful Friend” introduced the idea that we shouldn’t think of people who are a different religion to us as being any better or worse than us just because they believe different things, eat different foods or have different religious practices. If we start to rather respect each other’s backgrounds and beliefs the world could be a better place.
   3. The book we have just read, “Colourful Pete”, has now introduced the idea that we shouldn’t think that just because people are a different colour to us that they are any better or worse than us. Rather if we recognise that colour makes no difference to a person and we human beings are all one big family, again, the world could be a better place.
2. Now ask the class if anyone can think of any other differences between people. If the class does not come up with these please suggest the following:
   1. **Gender:** Sometimes people are treated differently just because they are a boy or a girl. Even in Britain, women did not have an equal right with men to vote and had to fight for that right. Women had an equal right to vote in the UK only about 100 years ago. In some cultures women still don’t have the right to vote or have only just recently been allowed to vote – for example, in Saudi Arabia women were allowed to vote for the first time in 2015. In some cultures girls can’t even learn at schools – even today.
   2. **Youth:** Sometimes children are treated differently too. Sometimes it is appropriate and correct for an adult to treat children differently from themselves. For example, parents act correctly when they care for their children and tell them that they need to go to bed at a certain time or mustn’t run across the road without looking or need to listen to them about all aspects of life because the truth is that adults have been around for a lot longer than their kids and have a better idea of things that could be good or bad for a child. A good parent tries to do what is best for their child and that’s all great and not what we are talking about. Sadly, adults sometimes treat children badly because adults are more powerful than children. In some places, for example, rather than go to school, some children are made to work very hard in a factory or even as a soldier. This is very hard for these children and very unfair.
   3. **The elderly**: Treating the elderly differently because of their age is another example of age discrimination. Some older people are cared for so nicely. Families are very loving to them. They are treated with respect and cared for with love. While some other people can sometimes be very nasty to old people just because they are old. Some old people can be a bit forgetful or walk a bit slower or eat with difficulty, but that’s not a reason to ever treat them badly.
   4. **The disabled**: Yet another example of a group that is treated differently are people with some form of disability. Some people are not able to live a normal life like you and me because they are born with a disability or become disabled during their lifetimes because of illness or something that might have happened to them. There are many different types of disability, for example:
      1. A person could be mentally disabled, which means that they have difficulty thinking the way that you or I think.
      2. They could be physically disabled, which means a whole lot of possible things – for example:
         1. they can’t walk and have to use a wheel chair or special limbs; or
         2. they can’t talk and need to use their hands to sign; or
         3. they can’t hear and again need to lip read and use their hands to sign or they might be able to speak, but sometimes with some difficulty; or
         4. their bodies work in a variety of different ways that makes life hard for them.
   5. **Wealth**: Another example of difference between people is wealth. Some people are wealthy; some people are poor and some people are neither wealthy nor poor. Some people live in a very big house, some people have smaller houses and some people have no houses at all and live on the streets or in shelters. Wealth is another thing that sometimes makes people treat each other differently when they should not.
   6. **Other possible differences to consider discussing** – height: tall and short people; colour of hair: blondes, red-haired, brunettes; left-handed people, fat or thin people; being clever or not so clever; dyslexia; autism; ADHD; sexual orientation; transgender; etc.
3. Sum up the discussion and introduce the next part of the activity:
   1. So there are lots of examples of differences between people, which sadly make people treat each other differently and sometimes really badly. But this really has to stop. As we have learned from reading the Pete series – we are all human beings no matter what our different backgrounds and we should focus on what we have in common rather than what sets us apart.
   2. There are some wonderful people in the world who have challenged being treated differently in a very heroic way. We are going to learn about a few today.

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