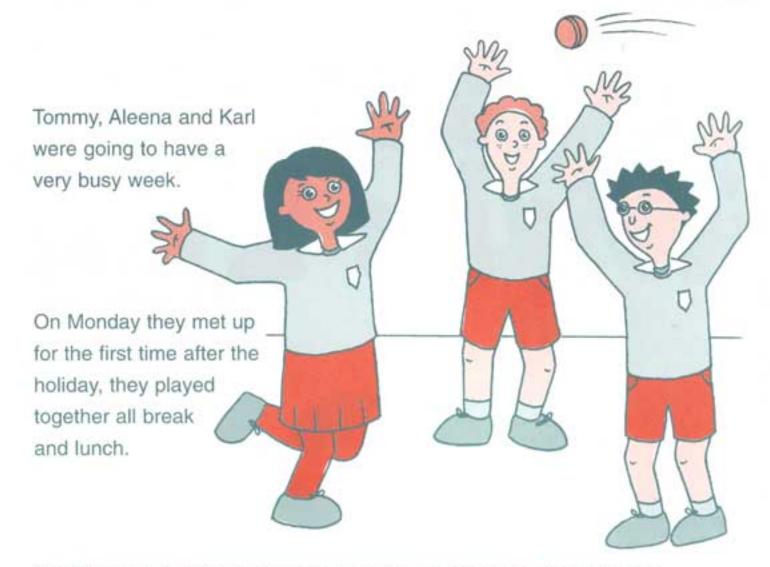
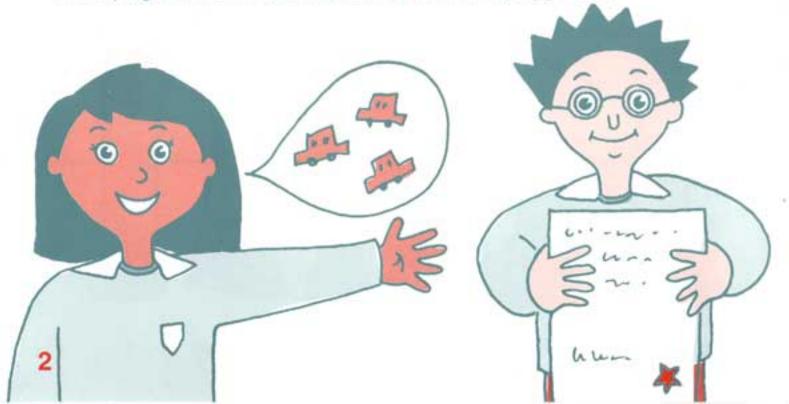


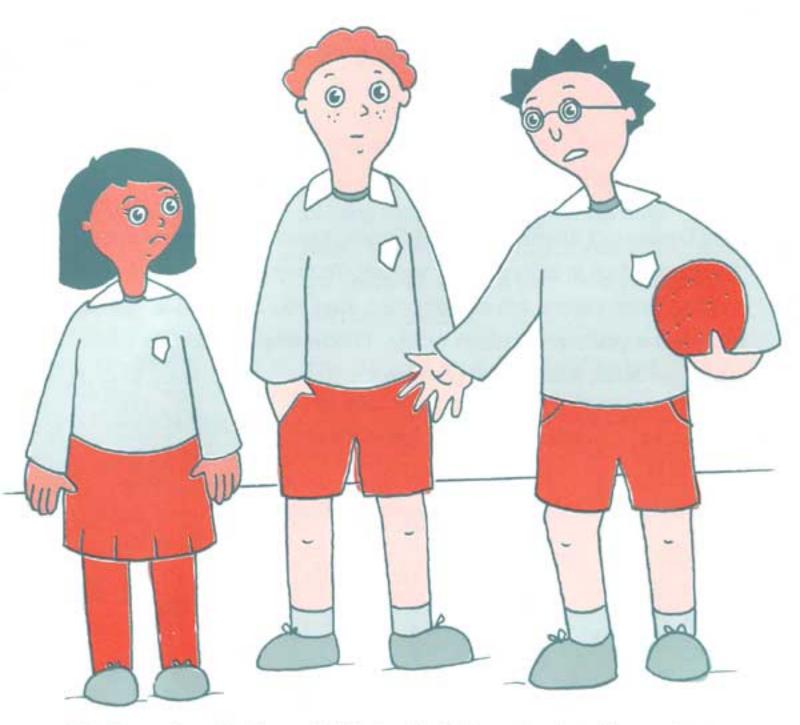
by Claire Halsey and Claire Vessey



On Tuesday they had circle time and Aleena told about how she and Karl had shared the cars and garage at break time.

On Wednesday, Tommy got an achievement certificate in assembly for helping Aleena when she'd fallen down in the playground.





On Thursday, Karl brought his football into school and he and Tommy went off to play. Aleena ran up too but Karl told her she couldn't join in, he said, "Girls can't play football."

Aleena tried not to cry. She took a deep breath, looked straight at Karl, used a strong voice and said, "I don't like what you are saying, you are not being kind, friends should all join together," and she walked away.

Tommy looked at Karl.

Karl said, "The bigger boys say Aleena looks different so we shouldn't play with her."

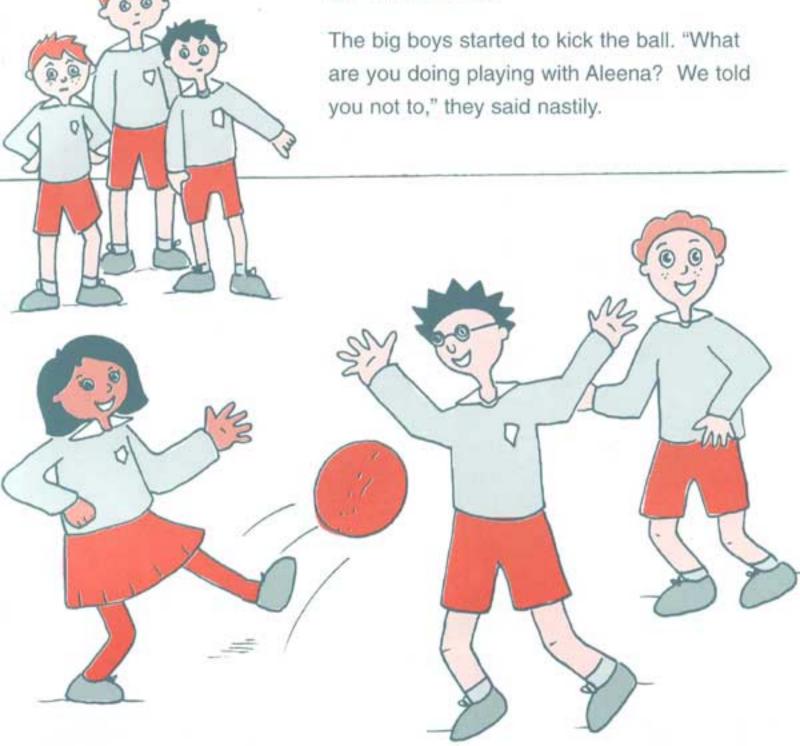
Tommy didn't like what Karl was saying, he went to tell the teacher, Miss Davies.

Miss Davies said, "I'm glad you've come to talk to me, it's good to get help from an adult you trust."

Miss Davies got Aleena, Karl and Tommy together and explained, "Everyone of us is different and special. Tommy, you are good at noticing when people are sad or cross. Karl you are good at helping and Aleena you always share nicely. I know what we can do about the bigger boys, lets go and practice."



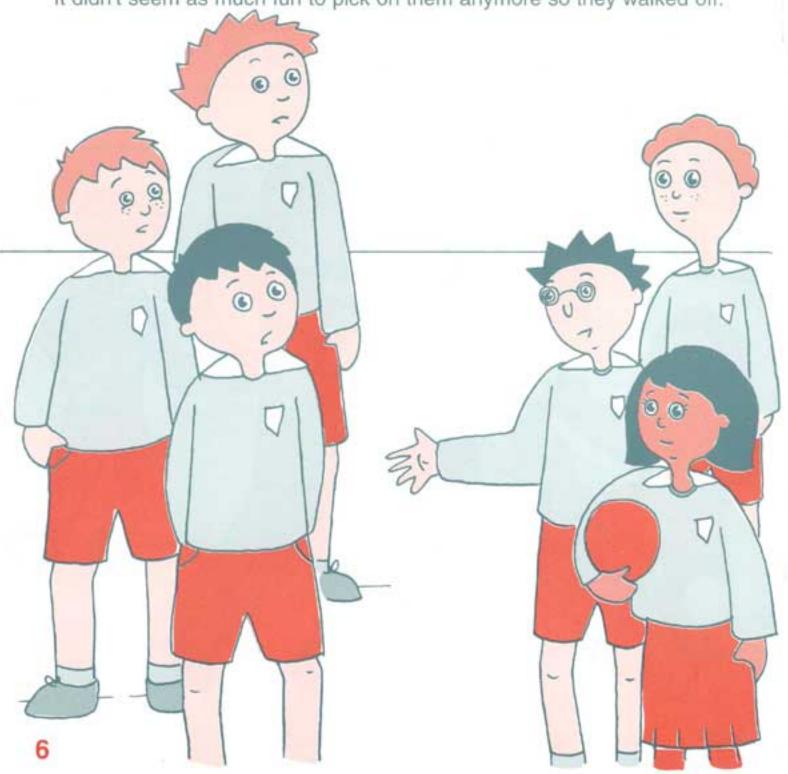
Next day, as Tommy, Aleena and Karl are playing football some of the big boys walk over. The friends looked at each other and got ready to do what they have practiced with Miss Davies.



The three friends are a little bit scared but they remember to stand tall, take a deep breath and say, "We don't like what you are saying and we want you to stop."

Karl says firmly, "Aleena is my friend and she is great at football so we are going to play with her and if you don't leave us alone we will tell our teacher."

The bigger boys were surprised that Tommy, Karl and Aleena weren't as scared of them as they had expected and they hadn't cried or got angry. It didn't seem as much fun to pick on them anymore so they walked off.



Tommy Karl and Aleena laughed with each other, they were so pleased they had talked to Miss Davies.

"We will always help each other and stick together, that's what good friends do," said Tommy.



"Yes we will always walk tall together," said Aleena.

The three good friends sing their favourite song,

"This is the way we walk tall, walk tall, walk tall, this is the way we walk tall, we like walking tall".