



Challenge, Equality & Opportunity

Thursday 15th October 2020

Harvest 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is that time of year again when our minds turn to 'cauliflowers fluffy and cabbages green...' but, of course, this year is going to be very different.

The current guidance rules out any possibility of inviting you into school for the usual celebration of singing and giving thanks. However, we still want this year's harvest time to be a time of reflection and giving. We want our children to know that they have made a difference to someone in our community by sharing what they have with others. So, although we can't sing and celebrate, we are still going to have a harvest collection and donate our gifts to the Salvation Army. We are aware of other food charities and organisations and later in the year, if we are able to, we will make a donation to a local foodbank as we have done in the past. However, we have a longstanding tradition of donating to the Salvation Army in Newcastle and we know that they will put our gifts to good use. Typically, the gifts we give are used in the charity's work with people who are homeless. This can be via their night shelters and safe accommodation or to support families and individuals who are trying to establish a safe place to live following trauma or homelessness. I know that they are currently busier than ever and that there is an enormous demand for their services.

Next week, from Monday to Thursday, we will put a table or boxes outside of the main entrance where you can leave your donations. Please note that we can't accept any fresh food as we will be quarantining the food in school over the half term week.

Through class assemblies and discussions next week, class teachers will be talking to the children about their donations and how they will be used to help others. We will tweet photographs of the collected donations so that everyone can see how much we have collected before it is picked up and put to good use.

We hope that you will be able to find something to donate and talk to your children about the importance of sharing what we have with others. Thank you for your support.

Best wishes

Helen McKenna
Headteacher

