



# Bishop Aldhelm's CE Primary School

*Loved by God; United in Learning*

Headteacher: Scott Tait Deputy Headteacher: Lizzie Sharpe

19.10.22

Dear parent/s carers,

Here at Bishop Aldhelm's, we are always striving to instil in our young people skills of communication, empathy and compassion. We believe these skills can be developed in the youngest children here at school and we seek to offer them experiences which will help them in this.

There has been a lot of press recently about the benefits of intergenerational relationships. A documentary called "The nursing home for 4 year olds", experimented with having a pre school within a nursing home and the children and seniors interacting frequently. The benefits to both the seniors and young children were profound. The children developed friendships and learnt from the residents and the residents were given a new lease of life by spending time with such young, energetic children!

Over the past few years, I have developed a connection with a nursing home in Bournemouth called RNNH run by the charity Friends of the Elderly. I have taken numerous foundation stage children to visit the residents there and we have taken part in a range of activities from Zumba to creature teachers to baking to a sports day with residents and children interacting together. I have seen, first hand, the benefits to all involved.

We would therefore love to start this program with the Foundation stage children here at Bishop Aldhelms. This would offer all the children a chance to visit the nursing home with staff from Foundation stage to take part in some intergenerational activities. Each child will be offered the opportunity to visit once or twice this year on a Friday afternoon. The children will be taken there and back in the school minibus accompanied by staff.

Due to COVID still putting elderly people at increased risk, there are some precautions that would need to be taken prior to us going to visit in Winter when we will be indoors. We would take the children's temperature before visiting and also when indoors, they would be required to wear a visor. The nursing home will provide these and the children will be able to decorate them and keep their own one! When we visit in warmer, drier weather and can go outside, these will not be necessary.

We would love all the children to have the opportunity to take part in this enriching programme and I know the residents, after being isolated due to COVID for a very long time, are very much looking forward to having happy, lively and friendly children back in their home!

Please can you fill in the form below to sign consent for your child to take part and return to your child's class teacher by **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November**. We will let you know in advance which week your child will be visiting.

Many thanks for your support

Mrs Kassiri

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

I do/do not give permission for my child/ren to visit the RNNH Nursing home to take part in intergenerational activities.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_



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