



# Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School

*Loved by God; United in Learning*

Headteacher: Scott Tait

Deputy Headteacher: Lizzie Sharpe

*Love, Unity,  
Courage  
and Inspiration*

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **The Wishing Tree - Christmas Giving**

Due to the amazing response we had the past four years, we will again be working with Gateway Church this Christmas to provide presents for children and vulnerable adults in our community who will be going through a hard time. Through Gateway Church we have connections with charities who support children and families who have either fled from elsewhere in the UK and are having to take refuge in cramped living conditions or have been subjected to horrible situations and have had to be removed from their homes. Now more than ever, there are children and families local to us, who have suffered as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.

With all this in mind, we are aiming to share some love and bring light into their lives by providing gifts for them which they wouldn't necessarily receive this Christmas. This year we are doing this slightly differently, sadly, tags will not be available to collect from our Christmas tree but will be sent home via class teachers instead.

### **How does it work?**

From Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, class teachers will have a range of gift tags, each with details of a child linked to one of the selected charities. Children in Year 5 and 6 may take a tag from their teacher (with permission of their parent). Parents of children in EYFS – Year 4 may collect a tag from the class teacher when they drop off or collect their child at the classroom door.

The aim is for as many people from the school community to take a gift tag, buy and wrap the suggested present and then bring this back into school with the tag attached. This year we are inviting families to drop off the presents on one specific day. On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December, our school minibus will be positioned at the front of the school by the blue gates 8:30am – 9.15am. We ask that you and your child place your presents (with the tag attached) on the tables that will be available by the minibus. For children arriving through the back gate we will also have a trolley ready to take their presents. This is so we can avoid the presents coming into the school building. **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December is the only drop off day.**

### **What can the present include?**

The tags have specific information about the age and gender of the child (e.g. girl, aged 5) or adult. The present does not have to be expensive, about £5 is suggested however it needs to be brand new rather than second hand goods. We would like to show these children and adults that they are valued through careful consideration for what they would appreciate.

**If you take a tag then it is expected that the present will be bought, wrapped and brought back into school.**

This is a great opportunity for us to share Jesus' love in the community and celebrate the joy of giving. If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to contact myself or your child's class teacher.

Thanking you all in advance for your generous giving,

Mrs Smith  
Assistant Headteacher (Church School / SIAMS)

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Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our children.  
Hamwic Education Trust. Registered address: Unit E, Mill Yard, Nursling Street, Southampton, SO16 0AJ.  
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