



November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Christmas is a time where we are typically surrounded by celebration and the traditional views of gift giving, secure family, togetherness and happiness. Staff, students and families at this time make the most of the Christmas break to catch up with loved ones, relax and take a break from our busy schedules.

Sadly, celebrating Christmas is harder for some of the families within our community, a few of whom are dealing with significant challenges and may be struggling financially. As ever we look to find ways to support our local community and the students in our care.

As part of this support, we will again be running our present 'Donation and Collection Box' to ensure all within our community has the opportunity to experience some form of Christmas cheer. This initiative has been running for over 10 years and is greatly valued by those who receive these donations. If you can offer a small gift e.g socks, candles, chocolates or a deodorant/beauty gift set please bring it into reception; it is a small token but it means so much to our most vulnerable students. The gifts are given before the Christmas break and any items left over will be donated to other charities who support those in need at Christmas.

We are also collecting food donations for the Daylight Centre Foodbank again this year through our hugely successful 'Christmas Hamper' competition. This is a form and house competition; groups are tasked to make the most elaborate Christmas Hamper and then fill it with donations of cupboard/long-life foods which we can again pass on to those who are in need.

Particularly this year we feel it is necessary to support those students within the school who have experienced the loss of a loved one. We are going to hold a creative workshop called 'Make a Memory'; a therapeutic group to support the students in our care who have lost loved ones to 'Make a Memory' and reflect on and manage the consequences of loss at a time when all around them they see celebration and reminders of family togetherness.



There are limits to places on this workshop and so they will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. If you want to sign up your child to this workshop please enter your details in the MS form below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yu1GLt0A20uVy2z1Ys-7pK-XmqrZVEtMtt4v7HITJERUNjRRWjVMNDdIUeRMDBSMTdJNldKVkhUTS4u>

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Sexsmith
Assistant Principal