

# 'Let us spur one another to acts of love and good deeds.'

Hebrews 10:24

Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Exbourne Friends and Families,

What a delightful Harvest celebration we had! Thank you so much for your generosity and for joining us for our service at the church and for our community afternoon tea at the school.



## Food Banks

Please don't be embarrassed about seeking support if you need it. Many people in our community are struggling financially at present, and visiting a food bank or community fridge can help tide you over during a difficult patch.

Locally we have Okehampton Food bank which is open Friday mornings. Exbourne families may not be aware of the Community Fridge situated in Merry Go Round, North Tawton where you can also buy preloved children's clothes. Follow on Facebook for their events.

Some people prefer to go further afield for support, which I think is really sad as there should be no stigma attached to accessing help. Here are links to links to places in Devon where support can be obtained.

[Northern Devon Foodbank - The Trussell Trust](#)

## PFA

I am delighted that we have now formally elected our PFA!

A huge thank you to Laura Teixeira (Maisie's mum) Sophie Hawkins (Charlie's mum) and Kelly Campbell (Ben's mum) for nominating themselves for the roles of treasurer, chair and secretary. Their nominations have been seconded and we welcome them to their roles. We will be working together to arrange lots of fun things for our community as well as raising funds. We are organising a theatre trip, we will let you know as soon as it is confirmed. Next Friday we will have a bake sale and non-uniform day, please bring £1 for our PFA fund.

### **The Burrow**

Do you know someone who would like to read with our children? They don't have to commit to every week, and they don't have to be a parent! We are so happy to read with grandparents, and members of our local community. Wednesdays 2.30 – 3pm at the Burrow. Please sign up with Nikki.

### **Covid**

If you have covid, or covid symptoms, please be sensitive to others. Please wear a mask and keep your distance from our staff and other families. We do have members of our school community with health issues and our staff do not want to have any time off sick. Many thanks for your understanding.

### **Long Hair**

If your child has long hair, please can it be tied back. Long hair can be distracting in class and unsafe in the swimming pool. Many thanks.

### **Sad News**

Sadly, we will be saying farewell to Christina Jones next week. Personal circumstances mean she needs to focus on her family and farm for the time being. I know you will want to wish her all the best, and I do hope she will return to us at some point in the future as she really is a wonderful teacher and colleague. We do have a teacher for the new term, who I hope you will get to meet next week.

### **Reflection**

In our Harvest Service, we sang the hymn 'Paint a Perfect Picture.'

*I'm going to paint a perfect picture, a world of make believe.*

*No more hunger war, or suffering, a world I'd like to see.*

I invited children to describe their perfect picture, interestingly they spoke of family, friends, nature and no litter. What would your perfect picture look like?

Reverend Leigh reminded us that if we can imagine a perfect picture, we can make steps to realise it.

### **Prayer**

Loving God,

Thank you for the many ways in which you provide for us, for our food, our health, our happiness and safety. Thank you for our friendships, for our school and homes and for the people who care for us. Please guide us to care for the world you have provided for us, and to always strive to make it perfect. Amen

With best wishes always,

Tara Penny  
Principal

### **Dates for your diary**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October – photos at school

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Messy Church

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Bake Sale and non uniform day

Break up for half term

Week of 6<sup>th</sup> November – Parent meetings tba

