

St. Michael's Catholic Primary Academy & Nursery

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Principal Mrs. C. Williams

05 March 2014

Dear Parents

This year the Liturgical season of Lent commences on Ash Wednesday, 05 March.

As Lent commences we turn our thoughts to thinking about what we can do to make a difference to the lives of those who are less fortunate. Each year pupils take part in a number of charitable focused activities and raise funds to support the work of at least two nominated charities. The children's Lenten charitable fundraising efforts conclude as the children host their annual Easter Fayre on Friday 04 April (further details to follow).

This year our Lenten fundraising efforts will be used to support the ongoing good work of Father Hudson's Society. The Archbishop has asked all Catholic schools to support the work of this charity. Father Hudson's Society homes care for the needs of the elderly and also care for children who are not able to live with their birth families because of bereavement or social issues that prevent the children's natural family members from caring for them. This year we have spoken with members of our School Council and asked them to identify a second charity that the children would wish to raise funds for. The children have chosen to raise funds for Cancer Research. Any funds raised this year will be equally shared between the two charities.

Other Lenten Fundraising Activities

Help us to Build a Metre Mountain of Tins to assist the Brothers of the Good Shepherd feed the Homeless

I have recently received a letter from the Brothers of the Good Shepherd to ask us to join with others in creating a metre mountain of tinned food. The Brothers provide a shelter for the homeless people of Wolverhampton. The demand for the Brothers' service has now grown to the point where they are now needing to distribute 6,000 food parcels each month to provide sustenance for the homeless and most needy people in Wolverhampton. The Brothers are asking that staff and pupils donate one tin of food per person each week commencing 10 March and concluding Monday 31 March. As part of our Lenten focus to support those in need we would wish to support the Brothers of the Good Shepherd in the good work that they do to provide shelter and sustenance for homeless people.

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We will mark out a metre mountain and invite pupils to bring a tin of food each week to help to build the mountain. When our mountain has reached a metre high we will call the Brothers to collect the food that will then be put to very good use to feed the poor and hungry.

The Brothers of the Good Shepherd would also be pleased to receive any empty carrier bags that you may have that will assist them when distributing food to the needy.

Wacky Onesie Wednesday - 09 April

During recent School Council meetings, School Council members have discussed some inventive ideas that they would like to engage in to raise funds for the two nominated charities. The children from each of the five Academy School Councils have stated that Wednesday 09 April will be Wacky Onesie Wednesday. On this day children may come to school dressed in either a onesie or pyjamas. Children are asked to donate 50p towards the fundraising efforts for the two charities.

Further information will be provided re. other fundraising activities that the children wish to organise during Lent.

Thank you for supporting the children in their Lenten focused charitable activities.

Yours sincerely

C Williams Principal