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Dear Parents/Carers,

OWN CLOTHES DAY FOR BROMLEY FOOD BANK - Friday 27th November 2020



On **Friday 27th November** we will be collecting for Bromley Food Bank. We would normally do this as part of our Harvest Festival Assembly, but as we were unable to do this as a whole school this year, we have delayed the collection to coincide with the food bank collecting for their Christmas hampers.

As the Food Bank is preparing Christmas hampers to donate to those in need, they have asked that we collect desserts. If you feel that you are able, please send your child to school with a long life dessert of some kind, for example tins of custard, rice pudding, fruit, sponge puddings etc. or any kind of sweet treat that does not need to be refrigerated e.g. chocolate, sweets, biscuits etc. (for more ideas see the pictures below). If you do not have an item of this nature to donate, then any food that is not fresh – tins, packets, pasta, rice, sweets, squash, tea, coffee, sugar etc. as well as toiletries would be greatly received.

You will have seen in the news, the shocking statistics about the increasing numbers of people in this country who are living below the poverty line and about the huge numbers of people who have been financially affected by the pandemic. This year, more than ever, Bromley Food Bank needs our help. Please see below some information about Bromley Food Bank or visit their website:

<https://bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk/>

In return for your donations of food - **children are allowed to wear their own clothes on this day.** (All children may wear their own clothes even if you are unable at this time to make a donation.) **IMPORTANT: DUE TO CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT DONATIONS ON THE DAY (27th Nov).** There will be a box in every classroom to collect donations and children will sanitise their hands immediately afterwards. The goods will be quarantined for 72 hours before they are collected.

We appreciate that the Biggin Hill Community is diverse and that there are people in need in our own school community. We hold food vouchers at school; please see Kath Sargeant in confidence if you are in need of this service and we can help.

Many thanks,





How FOODBANKS WORK

Providing emergency food to people in crisis.

Every day people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income. A simple box of food makes a big difference, with foodbanks helping prevent crime, housing loss, family breakdown and mental health problems.

FOOD IS DONATED

Schools, churches, businesses and individuals donate non-perishable, in-date food to a foodbank. Large collections often take place as part of Harvest Festival celebrations and food is also collected at supermarkets.

FOOD IS SORTED AND STORED

Volunteers sort food to check that it's in date and pack it into boxes ready to be given to people in need. Over 40,000 people give up their time to volunteer at foodbanks.

PROFESSIONALS IDENTIFY PEOPLE IN NEED

Foodbanks partner with a wide range of care professionals such as doctors, health visitors, social workers and police to identify people in crisis and issue them with a foodbank voucher.

CLIENTS RECEIVE FOOD

Foodbank clients bring their voucher to a foodbank centre where it can be redeemed for three days' emergency food. Volunteers meet clients over a warm drink or free hot meal and are able to signpost people to agencies able to solve the longer-term problem.

