

Friday, 11th October, 2024



Dear Parents,

At this time of year, we often think about Harvest Time. Harvest is a special time of year in the Christian calendar when we can be thankful for our food but it is also a time for us to think about people in our community who are less fortunate than ourselves. As was in previous years we would like to support our local food banks in Ballymena. These are organised by The Trussell Trust. The Trussell Trust support a nationwide network of food banks and provide emergency food and support to people in our community who need it the most. **If you would like to donate any food to our local food banks we would greatly appreciate your help. All donated items can be sent in with your child. The donated food will be collected by one of the food bank volunteers on Friday 25th October.**

I've spoken to one of the food bank volunteers and they told me that the items that they are frequently running low on are, **coffee, sugar, tinned soup, tinned vegetables, tinned meat, tinned fish, tinned fruit, tinned custard, jam or marmalade, biscuits, toothpaste and toothbrushes.** However, the charity has pointed out that they are very appreciative of any donations so I've included a list of other suitable items too.

Once again I would like to say a big thank you for your continued support. **Every year, I am overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity and so are the foodbank volunteers.** On the reverse of this letter I've shared the kind message of appreciation that was sent to me last year after your donations were collected. It's great to be able to help our local community!

Mrs K McLaughlin (KS2 curriculum coordinator)

Items included in a typical food parcel.	Items that they are running low on
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soup • Pasta • Rice • Tinned tomatoes/ pasta sauce • Lentils, beans and pulses • Tea • UHT milk • Fruit juice • Fruit Juice • Pot Noodles • Nappies • Male and female toiletries • Cereal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sugar • Tinned vegetables • Tinned Meat • Tinned fish • Tinned Fruit • Tinned Custard • Coffee • Biscuits • Toothpaste • Toothbrushes



Dear Braidside Community,

We have no words! I don't believe I've ever seen so many specifically chosen and lovingly donated toiletries in a single donation! Many of the things we struggle for consistently. (Even 5× size 5 nappies, the one size we had none of! 🙌) Also 212.8 kg of wonderfully accurate generous food items!! Incredible! Thank you!!