



Dear Parents/Carers,

30<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Last year we began a project to support “Mary’s Meals”, a charity that works to set children free from poverty by providing them with free education and a meal every day.

This term, as an Advent project, we shall be taking part in the Backpack Project. The Backpack Project is a simple way to help children from poor families to get to school in countries like Liberia and Malawi. Very often these families cannot afford to buy basic things like pencils and notebooks or even suitable clothes to wear to school and so children miss out on an education.

Along with the free school meal that Mary’s Meals provides, the backpacks that we send will help children to get an education that will help them escape poverty in later life.

We are asking each family for the following items:-

- A backpack or a school type bag
- Small ball (e.g. tennis ball)
- Spoon (preferably metal)
- Notepad, pencils, crayons, colouring pencils or pens, sharpener, eraser, ruler, pencil case
- Towel, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush (cheap brands are fine!)
- Shorts or skirt and t-shirt, or dress and a pair of flip-flops.

Good quality second hand items are great!

Some families may try to collect a full pack, while others may prefer to collect many separate items to bring in.

We want to make the Backpack Project an enjoyable and educational experience. We hope the children will learn enterprise and citizenship skills, as well as learning about almsgiving and charitable work in the run-up to Christmas and about life in poor countries.

Please get your child to bring in your family’s completed backpack (or a collection of as many items as possible in a carrier bag or box) into school on:-

**MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

Many thanks for your support.

Mrs M. Bedell – RE Co-Ordinator

