



Beths Grammar School

an 11 – 18 selective school with academy status

Headteacher: Mr R J Blyghton

21st November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 8 scholars,

As a year group we have discussed the challenges which many are currently facing in their lives and understand that charitable work is more important than ever, in a society that presents many of us with serious challenges. As we edge closer toward the festive season, I am mindful of the toll that this has on our local community, particularly with the increase in the cost of living and concerns regarding safe and warm homes. During our assembly this morning, I have introduced the year group to some important charitable initiatives which we will be working on in the run up to Christmas.

Once again, Scholars and staff across the school community are being encouraged to bring in items that will be donated to our local foodbank, **Bexley Foodbank**. The festive season can often be a stressful time and put additional pressure on those who may be struggling at this time. The final day for scholars to donate to this cause is on **Friday, 15th December**. During the collection period, a creative team of scholars will be helping to build a bumper hamper to hold the year group's collection of donations in, which I look forward to sharing with you at the end of the year. Please help us work together to support our community by supporting your scholar in bringing in a donation to the collection. A list of urgent and surplus products can be found on the Bexley Foodbank website: <https://bexley.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>. Please note that food containing alcohol, including mince pies and Christmas puddings are not accepted and all donations should be dropped off and collated in the tutor room.

As well as this, scholars are also encouraged to bring in a coat which will be donated to HandsOn London's charitable initiative, **WrapUp London**. With rates of homelessness and sleeping rough on the rise within our local boroughs and the city, this is one simple thing that we can do to make sure that those facing the harshest of cold conditions this winter are supported. Coats are needed for men, women, children and babies. The final day for scholars to donate to this cause is on **Friday, 1st December** and all donations should be made to the main school reception. More information about this initiative can be found here: [WrapUp London | Donate a coat this winter \(handsonlondon.org.uk\)](http://WrapUp London | Donate a coat this winter (handsonlondon.org.uk)).

Finally, I would like to thank you for the continuous support you have shown your scholar this academic year. I believe we can work together to ensure the year group will continue to develop their compassion for our local community.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Sarah Stevens
Head of Year 8