

Water Primary School

Happiness, Health & Opportunity

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Date: 22/10/20



Dear parents and guardians,

Apologies for the short notice but if families have any unwanted food items to donate to the Raft Foundation, we would be more than happy to receive and pass on to them during half term. We will quarantine the items (no perishable items) and deliver next week.

This below from Marcus Rashford is a very important message and if you can help that would be fantastic! If you can, let's help but absolutely no pressure from us.

*Put aside all the noise, the digs, the party politics and let's focus on the reality. A significant number of children are going to bed tonight not only hungry but feeling like they do not matter because of comments that have been made today. We must stop stigmatising, judging and pointing fingers. Our views are being clouded by political affiliation. **This is not politics, this is humanity.** We talk about the devastating impact of COVID-19 but, if projections are anything to go by, child food poverty has the potential to become the greatest pandemic the country has ever faced. We must start working together and unite to protect our most vulnerable children. No more sticking plasters. Let's face this head on. Let's level up once and for all. The asks of the Child Food Poverty Taskforce remain the same. We are endorsing Government-commissioned policy recommendations that were built from extensive research and data analysis. These policies are vital to stabilising millions of households across the UK and need to be implemented without delay. Child hunger should never be faced with looming deadlines.*

We need a long-term sustainable framework, and thanks to the 300,000+ signatures, we will now be offered the opportunity to discuss this. Following private and public approaches, I once again invite Number 10 to sit around the table with the Taskforce so that, together, we can collaborate on how best to combat child food poverty in the UK. We are here to help, but we require guidance and insight from those in Number 10. I don't have the education of a politician, many on Twitter have made that clear today, but I have a social education having lived through this and having spent time with the families and children most affected. These children matter. These children are the future of this country. They are not just another statistic. And for as long as they don't have a voice, they will have mine. You have my word on that.

Many thanks.

Mr Willan
Headteacher



