

# Harewood C of E Primary School

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## “Educating for Life In All Its Fullness”

Dear Families,

Next week we are celebrating harvest in school and the focus of our collective worships will be on Harvest Festivals.

This year we have chosen to support the Trussell Trust Leeds North and West foodbank, which is based in LS17 and helps families in our area of Leeds. This is a charity that school has supported in the past and this year with the ever-increasing cost of food and energy, they are in need of donations more than ever.

### The Trussell Trust

Carol and Paddy Henderson founded the Trussell Trust in 1997 based on a legacy left by Carol’s mother, Betty Trussell. The Trust’s initial Bulgaria projects focused on improving conditions for the 60+ children sleeping at Central Railway Station in Bulgaria.

In 2000, Paddy received a call from a mother in Salisbury, who was struggling to afford food and faced sending her children to bed hungry. Paddy investigated data on poverty and deprivation in the UK and found that significant numbers of people faced going hungry as a result of a sudden crisis. So Paddy started **Salisbury Foodbank** in his garden shed and garage, providing three days’ emergency food to local people in crisis.

The food bank model spread rapidly through church networks and, in particular, inspiration was drawn from a verse from Matthew’s gospel in the Bible which reads: *“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me.”* (Matthew 25:35-36)

Twenty years later, they now support a network of food banks across the UK, supported by thousands of volunteers. Each provides emergency food to people in crisis, and additional support to help tackle the root causes that sweep people into poverty and build people’s resilience, so they are less likely to need a food bank in the future.

**We are asking for donations to be brought into school from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September and these will be collected by the trust at the end of the week.**

On the Friday, instead of our usual Celebration Assembly we will be holding a special Harvest Collective Worship which parents are invited to attend. The children have been learning harvest songs and will also tell you more about the work of the Trussell Trust.

I have attached a “wish list” that has further information about the items the foodbank is most in need of.

Families have always been very generous in our Harvest collections and I know you will be again this year. Thank you in advance for your support.

Kind regards

Mr Ratcliffe

