



Dear Parents and Carers,

You will be aware that we pride ourselves enormously on the social justice projects we run within our Young Transformers programme. So far, our community has achieved so much for the most vulnerable people in society; from supporting a refugee family to visiting local care homes.

This term, we want to launch our 'Seeds of Change' initiative which aims to offer support for young people who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming homeless. You will have noticed yourself whilst being out and about in London, the number of people sleeping out on the street. These numbers are increasing in 2025.

We are saying as a school that this is simply not good enough for the society we want our children to grow up in.

Once again, we want to teach our children that being part of a community means that you can take responsibility for the things you want to change. We recognise the complex work our government, our local authorities and our charities do to tackle the homelessness crisis and we are excited to build collaborative partnerships with them. We aim to add our voice and actions to the good work that is already taking place. We can each make a small difference by planting seeds of kindness: 'Seeds of Change'.

This term, all the children in our school will learn about the causes of homelessness through a set of four lessons. We will also have two assemblies where children learn why people might become homeless and the children will learn about the incredible organisations who support those living on the streets.

We know that we can only make a difference if we have knowledge. That is why we want to teach our children first about housing and about the challenge of keeping a home when things are tough. The aim is for the children to use this knowledge to then raise significant funds to support young vulnerable people who are already living on the streets or who are at risk of becoming homeless.

Our aims are three fold:

- Educate children about the challenges of adequate housing and homelessness
- Work in partnership with charities to support young people at risk of homelessness
- Work closely with local charities and authorities to offer long term, continuous and immediate support for those living on our streets

We set ourselves an ambitious target of raising £18,000 between our three schools. With this money, we can make an incredible difference to many young people's lives. Through our partnership with charities and local councils, we set out to buy two and a half months of shelter with a night host. This means that when a young person has no place to go to, they can be safe and supported by a trained host whilst looking for long term accommodation. We also want to buy eight vulnerable young people a bursary so that they can enter further education without the concern of thinking how they will pay for it. Furthermore, with the money we raise, we can offer forty young people a starter pack. These packs are designed for young people to settle into their new home and begin their new lives. Included in each starter pack will be essential toiletries, bedding, towels, kitchen equipment and crockery. These packs can make a new resident instantly feel at home rather than having to ask. Something that we actively want to be involved in is to work with local charities to hand out care packages to those living on the streets. We hope to give out eighty care packages which include toiletries, warm clothing, socks, and quality food products so that each person feels treated with respect, dignity and humanity. Finally we are passionate about buying bed spaces for those with the greatest need. We believe that every human has the right to sleep in a bed every night of the year and not just in the colder months. Sleeping in a bed, being in a safe shelter takes someone immediately off the street and eliminates the risk of being out at night.

We aim to work with as many different people as possible to educate our pupils and community about housing and homelessness. For example, we have speakers from charity organisations who have confirmed they would be delighted to visit our school to tell the children more about what they do and show us how we can make a difference to the life of a young homeless person.

Throughout the summer, we will be working actively with the children to do our bit to raise awareness, to offer support and to protest against the increase of homelessness in London and wider areas. As a community, we can be powerful and stand up for those who do not always have a voice. We believe it is our responsibility as a community to do something meaningful and lasting.

We are confident that you are fully supportive of our new launch and that you will join us full heartedly to add your knowledge, your passion and your support to help those who struggle.

Warmest regards,

Mrs S Bannon

Headteacher

