



We are called to be the hands and face of Jesus as we learn, love and grow together

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Dear parents carers

Working in partnership with you, we fully recognise that since March, there have been considerable additional strains on families throughout our community. With the help of Caritas, The Felix Project, Feed-up Warm up and other generous donors the school has managed to distribute 294 food parcels to families from within the school and the three parishes. We hope that this has gone some way to help families as they deal with a range of circumstances.

A team of 10 teachers, senior leaders, TAs and Governors voluntarily gave of their time for 7 consecutive weeks to deliver a total of 294 food parcels (averaging 42 per week). I would like to take this opportunity to thank these volunteers for their amazing dedication and commitment to the school community. I know that they enjoyed the socially distanced conversations with so many of you on the doorstep!

As you are aware, we are currently planning for the potential the safe return to school for over 200 pupils; this is taking up much time for all school personnel and this work is likely to increase as gradually more pupils are allowed to return. As such the weekly food parcel deliveries are no longer possible to source, prepare and deliver; we must focus our attention on the safe return preparations. Therefore, we want to support you in obtaining alternative arrangements for this provision should you continue to need support.

Below are a number of community organisations who offer support to individuals which you may find useful to contact:

STEVENAGE FOOTBALL CLUB prescription collection, free sandwich service and a 'friendly chat' phone call.

To arrange any of these call: **01438 222222 open 10am – 4pm**

COMPASSIONATE NEIGHBOURS - A group who will arrange personal shopping for those self-isolating

email cn@ghhospicecare.org.uk or 01462 679540 (option 8 and leave a message).

STEVENAGE FOOD SHED – providing practical help, through pre-made food bags available for collection <http://www.stevenage-vineyard.co.uk/compassion/foodshed/>

HERTS HELP - offering practical help with finance and funding, crisis support, social and mental health care support services <https://www.hertshelp.net/hertshelp.aspx> call [0300 123 4044](tel:03001234044)



FEED UP WARM UP - Friendly drop-in centres once a week in Stevenage providing food, clothing, care and support.

Tuesdays 6pm – 8.30pm at St. Andrew & St. George Church St George's Way Stevenage, no need to book.

For more inf call Fran 07933 557338

www.feedupwarmup.co.uk

<https://en-gb.facebook.com/feedupwarmup/>

email info@feedupwarmup.co.uk feedupwarmup@gmail.com

STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL – Stevenage Helps Community Response team, working together with local voluntary and community organisations and local businesses who have offered assistance during the Covid-19 outbreak, for help with

- Organising food supplies
- Accessing essential services
- Assistance in other ways i.e. posting mail, telephone support

<http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/news-and-events/news/228050/>

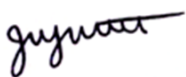
Senior staff at the school are also able to support you in one of the following ways:

1. **A referral by the school to the Stevenage Food Bank** who will contact you to arrange the support you require;
2. Providing a **one off food voucher** to help in particular circumstances; or
3. Application to other organisations for one off **emergency financial support**.

If one of the above options might be beneficial to you, please contact Mrs Sherry (rsherry@stvincent.herts.sch.uk) in confidence so that a further discussion can be arranged. The current situation has left many people across the town in situations that they just couldn't have predicted. Please do not be proud in asking for help: all of us may require help at some point and we would be pleased to point you in the right direction.

Keeping you all in my prayers.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Jon White
Headteacher

