



Puddletown Dorset DT2 8SA Headteacher: Sharon Hunt Milborne St Andrew First School Hopsfield Milborne St Andrew Dorset DT11 0JE

03 October 2017

Dear Parents and Children,

This year we have decided to hold a very special harvest collection and we would like to tell you more about it.

Last year we worked with the charity 'Blandford Cares' and other schools in DASP to help refugees in Calais. We took part in our own 'Calais Jungle' at St Osmund's Middle School to raise awareness of the situation. Everyone in school made 'spice bags' which were sent to Calais along with tins and other useful food items. The donations were delivered just before the camp in Calais was disbanded.

This year, the charity have been in touch to tell us that although the camp was closed down, the people are still living in the surrounding countryside. They are cold and wet, and many of the young people are developing 'trench foot' which is a condition caused by having wet feet. When we asked the charity how we could best support them, they told us that a collection of socks would be ideal.

Along with other DASP schools, we are asking each class to fill a box with socks. The most useful and most widely needed sizes are for age 12 children (size 6-9). It is up to you whether you buy new socks, or give an old pair - but if they are old, please make sure they are clean with no holes! The most important thing is that they are able to keep the refugee warm and dry.

Our Pupil Voice members have been invited to St Osmund's on Thursday 19th October to meet representatives from the 'Blanford Cares' Charity, who will speak to the children and collect our donations, which they will then drive directly to Calais.

Please bring your socks and put them in your class's box anytime you like before that date.

Thank you very much for your continuing support.

Yours Sincerely, Mrs Gough and The School Council.