

Dear Parents

As I am sure you are aware, the children have been buying Comic Relief memorabilia throughout the week and seem very enthused by their noses.

Throughout Comic Relief day, the children are more than welcome to wear their noses and any other comic relief merchandise.

We are aware that we have been asking a lot of our families in terms of the events we have staged and the things we have asked of parents in terms of supporting both charities and the school with donations and payments for specific items and also support for days with dressing up and preparing things. We do not wish to or want to overwhelm you. With this in mind, Comic Relief Day will be 'light touch'. Red noses are available to buy, but this is entirely optional. Class tea-towels also require payment and should be considered optional. Tea towels purchased by parents are sent directly to children's homes and not given out in class therefore children will be unaware of who has one and who does not.

Having had far fewer events in recent years, maybe we have got a little over excited that we can have them back and are trying to find the right balance. Many will feel we do enough; many will feel too much and many not enough. When we see our lovely play equipment and the many new books in school, we feel we are channelling any funds we do have to good causes outside school or direct to the children inside school.

For **school** arranged events (rather than those completed through independent companies) including charity events where we invite children to take part by dressing up or preparing something, I would like to make it very clear that participation is for every pupil. There will be no child excluded from events because there hasn't been a donation linked to participation. We fully appreciate times are tough for many of our families at the moment, with energy and household prices rising and people still feeling the financial fall out from COVID. We obviously are very grateful when people donate and would encourage those who can to do so. But a voluntary contribution is just that and this is what, in most cases, we would ask for.

We have, on March 25th, as was the case last year, in support of Jake, our Year 6 pupil who has been through this experience and been so brave in doing so, our 'Wear a Hat to School' fundraiser to raise money for Brain Tumour Research and Awareness. Any hat is a good hat as long as it has no negative messages or inappropriate language and it can be as simple (just a hat you have) or elaborate (decorated super hats) as you like. The link for the voluntary fundraiser is below, which I know many of you will want to contribute to, but every child can wear a hat that day. We await a sea of hats! More information will come out about this next week.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/parkwoodp>

There will be further events in the weeks ahead. We will keep you informed and try hard to get the balance right.

Mr A Moir
Headteacher