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Dear Parent/Carer

29th September 2021

Re: Harvest Festival Service(s)

I am writing to invite you to attend our Harvest Festival Service(s) on **Wednesday 6th October 2021** which will be held in the Methodist Chapel. I am very conscious of the varying levels of anxiety and concern regarding Covid-19 and therefore we have put a plan in place in conjunction with Rev. Sawyer, which will hopefully reassure parents and ensure we can enjoy time together celebrating Harvest in a Covid secure way.

We will be holding two Harvest Festival Services this year. **Opal, Amethyst and Sapphire** (Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children in Amethyst) will be holding their service at **11am** at the Methodist Chapel.

Children in **Ruby, Emerald and Diamond** (Year 3, 4, 5 & 6) will be holding their service at **2.30pm**.

This will allow us to minimise the number of people in one indoor location and to this end we are asking for only one adult per child to attend the service please. The Chapel will be well ventilated so please wrap up warm if the weather is chilly.

The children and escorting adults will sit together in the centre of the Chapel whilst parents will have a choice between sitting with others at the sides of the Chapel or in the top section of the Chapel where they can maintain social distancing. I must emphasise that ALL adults MUST wear a face covering whilst inside the Chapel (including school staff) and throughout the service. I do appreciate that wearing a face covering for any length of time is uncomfortable and therefore the service will be kept to a minimum and will last approximately 15-20 minutes.

If your child attends morning Nursery in Opal, you can take your child home with you after the service has concluded. All other children will be taken back to school and if you are unable to attend you should collect your morning Nursery child at 12noon as normal.

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Children in KS2 (Ruby, Emerald and Diamond) can go home directly from the Chapel if their parent is attending the service. All other children will return to school and should be collected as normal or go into After School Care or Club as normal.

We would be very grateful for any donations of food to be handed in at the collection box at the main gate on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th October. All food donated will be given to the Weardale Food Bank.

We are really looking forward to being able to return to our local Chapel to celebrate Harvest this year. If you feel able to join us we would very much love to see you. If you don't feel comfortable attending please do not think for one moment that any judgements are being made. I totally appreciate how difficult these decisions are and how widely opinions and assessment of risk can vary for different families.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross
Head Teacher

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