

17/09/2020

Dear Parents,

### **Benevolent Fund 2020/2021**

The Benevolent Fund is an important part of RGS life and it is with great pride that I write to outline the successes of last year's fundraising and set the goals for the year ahead.

Last year, the RGS community raised over £6,600 through the Benevolent Fund. This money supported research into genetic disorders, provided support for people suffering with prostate cancer and clean water to communities in developing countries. In addition, the One Can Trust donations were received with great thanks and offered food for many people in the local community at an otherwise very challenging time. On behalf of the charities we supported I would like to thank you all for supporting the Benevolent Fund initiative either through offering cash donations, by reminding your sons to donate to the causes or by donating food items.

This year, we are raising money for six charities once again. The charities are as follows:

- Autumn term 1           Jeans for Genes
- Autumn term 2           Help Refugees
- Spring term 1           Hearing dogs for the deaf
- Spring term 2           Water Aid
- Summer term 1         The Thomas Ball Children's Cancer Fund
- Summer term 2         Unicef

As last year, we recommend a weekly donation of 50p per student for each charity. Your son can donate this with cash in form time on a Tuesday morning and can pay for an entire half term in one donation if this helps him remember. As per the usual tradition, we will host a Jeans for Genes day where students can wear jeans instead of school trousers with their school uniform. This year, Jeans Day will be on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September but students can donate their money on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> through the Benevolent Fund collection in form time.

One thing that has really stood out to me about the recent months is the extent to which people want to support one another. This includes family, neighbours, friends or strangers I have met on my daily walks, and it also includes the RGS community. Supporting one another simply feels like it is what we do here, and I am pleased that the Benevolent Fund continues to be a way in which we can extend that beyond our immediate community. I found great joy in writing large cheques to charities last academic year on behalf of the students, staff and families at the RGS and I look forward to doing more this year.

Thank you for your continued support of the Benevolent Fund initiative.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S J Khan

Subject Leader for RS / Coordinator of Benevolent Fund