



HOSPITALITY AND HOPE IN THE HEART OF SWANSEA

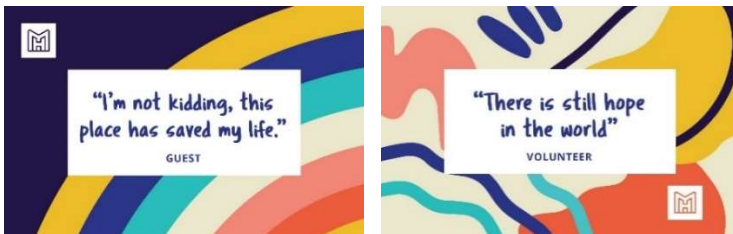
19th December 2023

Dear Students and Teachers at Cila Primary School

We would like to say a MASSIVE Thank You for your HUGE donation during this Christmas season. The 132 bags you prepared absolutely blew us away with happiness and appreciation! We know how hard you all worked in collecting donations, contacting businesses to help, as well as packing and decorating the bags. We loved watching your videos and seeing how much care and understanding you showed while organising these donations. We can see you are an amazing school and group of children.

Christmas can be a challenging time for many of our guests, and this will be the case again in 2023, which makes the 132 donation bags SO important. As we serve the over 100 guests expected at Matthew's House this Christmas Day, we will do our best to bring some joy and make them feel special as they are served a full Christmas meal with all the trimmings, and Christmas crackers! Not only will they get a delicious meal, but take extra food away for the evening, and receive gifts from Santa's grotto – thanks to *your* support!

In 2023 alone, we have served over 30,000 meals, distributed over 1,200 dignity packs filled with essential toiletries, and continued making our shower and laundry facilities available to people facing homelessness. Matt's Buddies continued to provide one-to-one support for our guests, with the addition of Hope Hall bringing professional services in to chat to guests where they feel most comfortable. The Hope in Swansea app grew to include over 160 support services, acting as a key resource for anyone needing hope and support – and even being endorsed by South Wales Police and the NHS! Our community choir continued to flourish, bringing joy to its members and the community alike through music. This included a performance at the highly successful Swans Big Sleepout which we hosted alongside Swansea City AFC Foundation. The rain poured down and gave those participating a small glimpse into the lives of so many less fortunate than us. Here is a snippet of what Matthew's House means to our guests and volunteers.



It has been a busy year, and we couldn't have done any of this without support like yours. Thank you so much for believing in Matthew's House, and we hope you have a happy and peaceful festive season!

With love and thanks,

The Matthew's House Leadership and Family

Thom Lynch

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