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Headteacher Lynn Harrison

Wednesday 4th September 2024

Dear parents,

We hope you have had a nice holiday and we would like to welcome you back to school. Unusually, Fairtrade Fortnight starts next week as part of a celebration of 30 years of Fairtrade.

As ever, we like to use our Fairtrade work to help our children develop understanding and empathy for families less fortunate than us in other parts of the world. In the UK, all children are entitled to go to school until the age of 18; children in EYFS and KS1 receive free school meals; many children receive free transport to school.

In other parts of the world, this is not the case. In Malawi, only 1 in 3 children go to high school because it must be paid for by families, most of whom cannot afford it. So, we have decided to take part in a scheme to send a child in Malawi to high school for a year. Our aim over the course of the year is to sell 90kg of fairly traded rice from Malawi, the amount of rice needed to be sold by a farmer in order to send one child to school.

This week, the Fairtrade group will be selling bags of True Origin long grain white rice from Malawi. School has already purchased the rice at a cost of £2 per bag. We know that this is more expensive than some brands of rice, however, the Fairtrade premium is very important for farming communities in developing countries. School will subsidise the cost of the rice from funds raised through previous Fairtrade activities and will charge £1 per 500g bag.

We have a nice totaliser in the school hall to track our progress.

Initially, bags of rice will be on sale this week and next. We would be very grateful for your support with this – we can make a difference!

*Mrs Sweetman, Jessie, Camilla, Annie, Ariana, Frankie,
Finley and Tommy*

The Fairtrade Committee