



# Cardinal Newman Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents

We are excited to announce that this summer we are supporting a fabulous charity called 'Sal's Shoes'. This charity was set up by an inspirational mum and this is why she did it:

"There are 300 million children in the world for whom walking with shoes is a rarity. This makes them extremely vulnerable to infection by parasites, such as hookworm; while injuries to the feet and ankles can lead to ulcers and other conditions which are almost always left untreated. Without shoes, many children are not permitted to attend school. Four years ago, when faced with a collection of our son Sal's outgrown shoes, I sought out charities who could donate them to those most in need. Surprisingly, there wasn't a single organisation that could tell me where Sal's pre-loved shoes would actually end up. I decided to cut out the middle man. Having grown up in Africa, and with a network of family and friends scattered all over the world, I decided that if no-one was willing to tell me where exactly Sal's shoes would end up walking again, I would deliver them there myself. A parcel was sent to a friend overseas, who distributed them on a children's oncology ward and sent back a photograph of a child wearing Sal's first pair of shoes; Sal's pair of shoes had become another's. After initially collecting more outgrown children's shoes from family and friends, word spread and soon I was inundated with pairs of barely worn shoes; 'Sal's Shoes' had been born." CJ Bowry (You can find out more here - <https://www.salsshoes.com/our-story>)

We are asking the children of Cardinal Newman to donate a pair of clean shoes on the last day of term. It doesn't have to be school shoes if you've just bought new ones and want to keep them for September - any old shoes will do, but each pair must have a £1 donation with it for the administration purposes of the charity. The idea is that we will leave our shoes on our tables and walk outside barefooted to the playground to be collected where the adult collecting can have a pair of shoes ready to wear home. The children going to next door's after-school club can also participate and then bring a pair of shoes with them to put on at the meeting point before leaving the school playground.

The act of walking barefooted is humbling and gives a sense of solidarity with those children who are less fortunate than ourselves. In September, the Prayer Council will help to pack and send the shoes to the charity. Please can you complete the reply slip below by Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July.

Yours faithfully

Mrs E Sharp

RE Lead

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## SAL'S SHOES COLLECTION

Name of child \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

I consent to my child's school shoes being donated to those in need and I enclose a £1 contribution towards the charity's administration.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_