

Dear Parents and Carers,

7th October 2024

Positive Action Volunteer Programme at BMS

We are delighted that our **Positive Action Volunteer (PAV) programme** will be continuing this year as we build on its successes from the last academic year. We have teamed up with a local charity, the Steve Bernard Foundation, to help continue this exciting programme for our pupils.

The PAV programme is a volunteering programme which encourages pupils to organise and take part in volunteering roles within the local community. This programme supports our aim as a school to prepare children for a 'life well lived'. We know being part of a volunteering scheme does not just benefit the local community, but the pupils themselves through the development of personal skills and attributes. Our programme model aims to boost personal development, increase confidence, as well as increase a willingness to try new activities and enable young people to become more aware of the needs of others. We really want children to understand their place and impact in the world and ultimately be able to contribute to the economy in the future. Pupils who complete volunteering hours as part of the PAV programme will be recognised through a range of exciting rewards and incentives.

Within school, we have a team of staff who will be mentors for a particular year group. They will support your child and meet them regularly in school to monitor how your child is getting on.

Last year was a real success as we had 21 pupils take part in regular volunteering placements. Some local volunteering ideas are listed below:

- being part of, or organising, a local litter pick
- gardening for a neighbour
- walking a neighbour's dog
- supporting at a charity fundraiser
- marshalling local events such as Park Run
- coaching younger children in sport classes
- helping within younger sections of Girlguiding and Scouting

The PAV programme launch will take place in school on 8th October. Your child can join the programme at any time however for those interested in joining this term, please complete the PAV Application Form which can be collected from their Tutor. Once completed they need to return it to the school office by Friday 11th October. Following this, they will receive a Log Book which you will need to counter sign each time your child completes a volunteer activity. It is likely that your child will need support from you to facilitate their movements to and from the volunteering activity. You may also be able to help them access different volunteering opportunities such as marshalling at local events. As such, we really appreciate your support in enabling your child, if they choose to take part, in this programme.


If you, or anyone you know, is able to support with opportunities for our pupils to participate in a volunteer role then please do get in contact with us.

We look forward to regularly updating you with how our pupils are getting on as part of the PAV programme.

Kind regards,



Miss J Palmer
Head of School



Miss H Burbidge
PAV Lead

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