

GROWING HEALTH AND WELLBEING!

Our group is called Parent Voice; we are the P.T.A. for St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Rawmarsh.

We are requesting your funding to help with improvements to ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL'S playground by helping us to purchase and install sensory equipment for the playground and to provide an 'OUTDOOR CLASSROOM' with raised vegetable patches. To make the area secure, we would also request funding to provide another set of gates to enclose the school ground; together with a CCTV camera for extra security.

We have carried out an emotional screening of all the children within our school and the assessment has found that many children require support with their emotional well being - What better way to help people to feel good than with an outside classroom; growing vegetables and plants; appreciating nature. Playground equipment which focuses on exercise and pulling and climbing are all suggested within our support package.



This is the area that we would like to develop.



A kind person has donated these vegetables for our Harvest Festival but this time next year, with your help, we could be growing our own vegetables!!!

Our group is also working towards

BRINGING GENERATIONS AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

- Community Events
- Working with Rawmarsh Community School and Rawmarsh Children's Centre
- Future generations could use facilities - hopefully on a long term basis
- Even in the early stages of the project, parents and families have been brought together with a common aim. Last Sunday morning, parents who do not normally come into school and built a shed for us with one of them saying he'd really enjoyed the morning; working with other people and people and in the open.

INVOLVING EVERYONE

- All children have been involved in deciding the improvements - after all, many children will have brothers and sisters who will come to our school in the future.
- We asked the children for their ideas on how to make the playground better
- Some children get really angry and everyone feels that sensory equipment would help - not just in one area but scattered around.

REDUCING ISOLATION AND INCLUSION

We have children with different aspects of special needs in Rawmarsh St. Joseph's; ranging from autistic to visually impaired. Children in school would benefit from an outside sensory area. We know sensory education works as we have a fabulous indoor sensory room which helps children to keep calm, relaxed and also educate for fine motor skills all children need

WELLBEING

We recognise, through our monitoring, that our children, most of who live in an area known to have social deprivation, have all sorts of pressures; SATs, curriculum, social media, living with domestic violence, unemployment and the list goes on.

However, Rawmarsh has many positives and it is these positives that St. Joseph's always works on and we strive to make St. Joseph's a little Oasis where people are welcomed and supported to grow

It is our duty to make every day as pleasurable as possible to build resilience, to create a feel-good factor for when times may get hard.

We have invested a large amount of money in training staff in approaches to address the emotional well-being of children and families.

We would like to use the outdoors a lot for therapeutic work and we feel that renovation of our playground and the addition of raised-bed gardens will help towards people's emotional well-being. Growing our own vegetables would also help towards our 'Master Chef' cooking classes because at St. Joseph's, every child has the opportunity to make a 'signature dish' from scratch using fresh ingredients.

CONCLUSION

We have long-term plans on how to make the playground a feel-good place for even more of our community. Eventually, we would like to build an all-weather football pitch but with your help we can make a difference to how well our children, parents, Grandparents and Parishioners feel NOW!