

24th October 2022

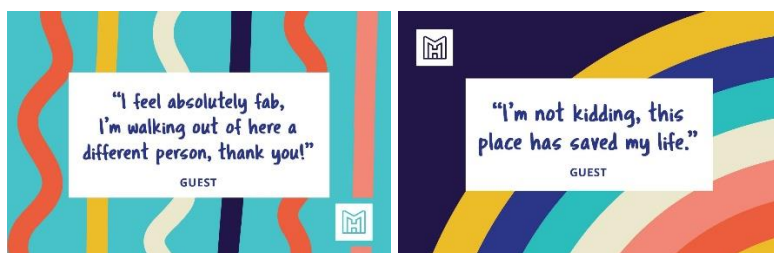
Dear Christchurch Primary School,

Thank you so much for choosing to donate your Harvest collection this year to Matthew's House! We are incredibly grateful, and it will make a real difference to people living vulnerably in our city. This winter is going to be tough for so many, with people struggling to heat their homes or put food on the table, so we appreciate your generosity now more than ever!

At Matthew's House our aim is to give people hope, and one of the ways we do that is through Matt's Café, a place where everyone is welcome to enjoy a hot meal on a pay-as-you-feel basis. This means that if someone doesn't have the funds, they can fill their belly for free. All the food we use is either donated or saved from the bin. Since opening in 2017 we have now served over **150,000 meals** to people in our city who would otherwise have gone hungry. We use donations like yours to make bean chilli, chicken curry, corned beef pie, pizza, fruit crumble, rocky road, and so much more. These meals are made with love and dignity!

This year, in addition to asking for donations of food, we also asked for toiletries – which you delivered in spades! Many of our guests are forced to make a difficult choice between food and basic hygiene. We want to make sure that doesn't happen. Your donations allow us to make dignity packs filled with essential hygiene items including toothpaste, deodorant, underwear, and sanitary products. In total we have given out **3,500 dignity packs** to women and men in our city. Simple little packs that are a "lifesaver" to many.

We estimate that harvest donations keep us going for **6+ months** – that is the equivalent of **18,000 meals and 350 dignity packs!** That is incredible. Thank you so much for believing in Matthew's House! Here are some quotes from guests to show just how important your donations are:



With love and thanks,

The Matthew's House Leadership and Family

Thom Lynch



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