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Ms Jo Hawkin Headteacher

A Church of England Academy

18 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Young Leader Award

As you are aware, Year 8 Students have been following the Archbishop Youth Trust Young Leaders Award this year in Religious Studies. The Archbishop of York Youth Trust exists to empower our young people to 'be the change you want to see' in their schools, communities and the world! The community activities involve personal volunteering work, in school charity work and wider community service.

Students should have been planning for the final challenge - the Community Challenge, where they would normally have spent a morning working in the community, during the first week of July, as part of the Give A Day to the City Campaign. One of the strengths of the Young Leaders Award is the connections that are created with Young Leaders and their communities. Through the YLA, Young Leaders connect with many members of their community, often including the vulnerable in our society. Whilst we are unable to be partnering with Give a Day to the City this year together, we are very proud of all that our students are doing whilst not in school, and how they have adapted their projects, based on government advice about Covid-19, to be beacons of hope in amongst all of this.

Many of our students have been, and are continuing to be, part of this challenge from their homes independently and are even more aware of the importance of serving others, the role they can play to bring unity to their communities, supporting and looking after the most vulnerable and to bring hope in their community. Kindness post cards and ideas for supporting the community were sent out to all Y8 students week beginning 14 April.

We hope to be able therefore, to ensure that our students are still able to receive their Young Leader Award certificates and badges in recognition of all their actions, whether they have helped to benefit one individual in their home or around school or neighbourhood or hundreds in the NHS. Sweet treats they would normally have received have instead be donated to our key workers at the Cumberland Infirmary or community centres, homes, or supporting the great work of Foodbank and other organisations that are a lifeline for the vulnerable in our society.

In addition to their practical work, students have been set work on Faith Leaders past and present to complete at home this last term – this is an element of their learning as part of the award, and students must send this in if they have not already done so.

So, we are requesting that students please share with us any of the things they are doing that make a difference and which show our young leaders being 'the change they want to see' in the world.

We need to have evidence of activities students have taken part in this year – (many had completed personal and school challenges before school closed) and all they have done to benefit our communities. Students should send to their class teacher or myself the evidence/information by 20 June to allow certificates to be printed and dispatched before the end of term – email addresses of staff as follows:

Mrs Shore (and for Mr McNicholas classes) to ash@trinity.cumbria.sch.uk

Ms Smith jsm@trinity.cumbria.sch.uk
Ms Dutton sdt@trinity.cumbria.sch.uk

Yours faithfully

A Shore (Mrs)

Subject Leader - RS