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Dear Parents and Carers,

As the Autumn term progresses and Christmas approaches, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your continued support.

As you know, at Whinney Banks we have an extremely dedicated and hard-working team of staff who are committed to giving your children the very best. As a staff, we know that we are very much appreciated and that you, as parents and carers, often want to show that appreciation. Over the years it has become more common to purchase gifts for teachers and teaching assistants at Christmas which, although very thoughtful, is not at all expected.

Some parents have more than one child in school and some of your children work with numerous adults - buying gifts can become such an expense. Without a doubt, the nicest gift a teacher can receive is a handmade picture or card. You may remember we proposed an alternative idea last year and given the success, we would like to propose the same again.

If you feel as though you would like to offer a gift, we have again agreed as a staff that we would ask for a contribution so that we could support the Middlesbrough Food Bank during December.

If you wish to donate a tin, dry packet or jar of something that would be very much appreciated. Please send this in with your child. The last day for donations will be Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December. We can then forward these on to supporting others in our community.

We hope that by doing this we will encourage our children to consider the true meaning of Christmas and help others who are in need at this time of the year.

With very best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year.

S. Thorpe & Staff at Whinney Banks Primary School

