

Chawton CE Primary School Chawton Alton Hampshire GU34 1SG

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Headteacher: Mrs. Sarah Goldsworthy

Friday 27th February 2020

## **Dear Parents**

On the first Friday in March every year women around the world will be celebrating **Women's World Day of Prayer**. This annual service, which was first held in the mid-1800s, begins its cycle around the world when the sun rises over Samoa and ends when the sun sets over American Samoa. An estimated 3 million women, men and young people in over 170 countries and islands will take part and in the British Isles alone some 6,000 services will take place.

The worship for 2020 has been prepared by the Christian women of Zimbabwe and at the heart of the service is the open invitation, 'Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk.' Some of our girls participated in the service last year, which was prepared by the women of Slovenia and there will be opportunities to help with the presentation of the service again this year. You will, of course, be very welcome to join us too as we think about the issues that have shaped the lives of Zimbabwean women and girls through history. There is also the opportunity to learn some new music and generally enjoy the fellowship.

This global event aims to demonstrate that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world. Through preparation and participation in the worship service, women worldwide learn how their sisters of other countries, languages and cultures live their lives and live out their faith. They learn of the concerns and needs of those women and to empathise and feel in solidarity with them.

Our Northanger Benefice service is to be held on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March from 11:00am at St Nicholas Church, Chawton, we would like to arrive a little earlier (approximately 10.30am) as there will be a music practice to learn some of the songs/hymns. The girls are invited to wear – over the top of their uniforms – a coloured sash or a tabard of one of the Zimbabwean flag's colours: red, yellow, green and black. A few girls will be selected to read a short amount during the service.

Please respond with the reply slip below to inform us whether you would like your daughter to be part of this; we will be walking to the church for the service so transport is not required. The service will finish at lunchtime and there is the opportunity to stay for a simple lunch afterwards; this will be a soup, cheese and bread. There will be a pot on the table for some monetary contribution to be made. If they would like to bring a packed lunch to school to eat afterwards that is fine as well.

I do hope every girl in year 6 will come and share in this valuable experience.



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Kind regards

Mrs Sarah Goldsworthy and Rev Lesley Leon

Women's World Day of Prayer

Pupil name:

I give/do not give permission for my daughter to attend the Women's World Day of Prayer on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

I am happy for my daughter to stay for lunch afterwards and will provide a donation to WWDP for this.

Contact telephone number on the day:

Medical needs:

Signed:

Date:

Please return to the school Admin Office by Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at the latest.