



Dear Parent/Carer,

Over the next 3 weeks Year 7 will be working together with Lepra to raise money to help beat Leprosy. We are going to be working as a year group in this fundraising effort which is outlined below.

A representative from Lepra gave a virtual presentation to the students today about their work to [Beat Leprosy](#). This opportunity gives students the chance to partake in an educational fundraising project whilst making a real difference to the lives of others, specifically the millions of people affected by leprosy.

To give you some background, Lepra are a UK-based charity working to beat leprosy, a disease that affects some of the world's poorest communities in India, Bangladesh and Zimbabwe where access to healthcare is often limited. Today more than 600 people will be diagnosed with this debilitating disease; **at least 50 of these will be children**. If left untreated it causes life-changing disabilities, but **it is curable!** With more support they can help more people to overcome this disease and rebuild their lives.

£25 provides the CURE & the medical care to someone with leprosy

Lepra has been working hard to support the people suffering with leprosy throughout the pandemic and many health services have faced serious restrictions or closures during the outbreak. Lepra has been working hard to fill the gap and stepped in wherever they can.

**As you will have heard on the news, India is in a state of medical emergency caused by a second wave of COVID-19; their healthcare system is collapsing. A record number of cases are being reported in India. Lepra is delivering lifesaving COVID-19 vaccinations and they urgently need support to deliver more.**

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Mr G Fitzpatrick

Head of School  
Mr D Perry



Students are going to take part in a **“Move for Lepra”** challenge so as a year group they will attempt to cover 4154 miles from St Mary’s College to India! A great way to get outside and walk / cycle / run / scoot!! They have until **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May** to complete the challenge.

Students can ask family and family friends for sponsorship or online donation and there are also plenty of fundraising activities that they can do safely from home such as:

- Doing some jobs around home: chore, car washing, looking after pets, gardening...
- Doing something sponsored – tech free day!
- Organising an online activity – virtual quiz, virtual concert...

Please ensure donations are collected via the Just Giving Page by **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May**  
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Lepra-StMarysCollege>

We do hope you will be able to support your child and thank you in advance for helping to give a life back to the many children and adults who are desperate for Lepra’s help. Last year they changed the lives of more than 260,000 people. By supporting this appeal, you can help them reach more!

For more information about Lepra’s work, please visit their web site [www.lepra.org.uk](http://www.lepra.org.uk).  
**[Thank you for supporting the students in the mission to Beat Leprosy!](#)**