

# Thank you from Hope of Life



Asociación Esperanza de Vida

Dear Parents and Children

You may recall that early in December The Beacons decided to raise money to support the children of 'Hope of Life', a school in Guatemala. For those who don't know much about 'Hope of Life' (Esperanza de Vida) it's a school that gives children, from very poor families, the opportunity to have an education and a chance of changing their lives, long term, for a better future. Here at St Gabriel's, over several years, we have had the opportunity to learn about the children who have attended this school and our Beacons have always been keen to keep these children in their thoughts and prayers and support them in any way they can. We see 'Hope of Life' as our sister school.



The Beacons chose to run a Christmas tuck shop and children kindly donated £1 in exchange for some tasty chocolate treats. The money raised, which was a fantastic £225, has been sent to Guatemala and this will be used for a celebration event for their children sometime early this year.

What was even more exciting was that the director of 'Hope of Life', Juan Manuel and his wife Rosa were actually able to visit St Gabriel's before Christmas! I know some parents have already heard from their children about this visit and how they had learnt to say a few words in Spanish to be able to say 'hello' and 'welcome'. What was so lovely was that Juan and Rosa were able to watch The



Beacons lead an assembly and then they visited each classroom to meet everyone and the children were able to ask lots of questions. It was a very special time for everyone involved!



I wanted to share with you all about this unique opportunity and pass on not only my thanks but also Juan and Rosa's thanks and above all the thanks from each of the 147 children who attend 'Hope of life' for the support and love everyone at St Gabriel's has given them. It's very much appreciated.

Sandra Hilliard, Vice Chair of Governors