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Dear Children,

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Mission Together - Children helping Children

Jesus taught us to try our best to follow in his footsteps. He also asked us to make known God's great love for everybody. We can do this by praying for, and helping, others: by feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, welcoming strangers and visiting the sick.

There are children all over the world who don't have enough food or water or who don't have medicine for when they are sick and who do not go to school. There are many who have never heard of Jesus and do not know that he loves them very much. Through **Mission Together** you can do what Jesus taught by praying for children overseas and by sharing what you have so that they can have the things you have like food, water, medicine and an education. **Mission Together** asks you to be 'children helping children.'

This is the story about a boy called Ajay, who lives on a tea estate in Sri Lanka. His family have worked and lived there all their lives. Life is hard, especially when the monsoon brings heavy rains and the ground floods and the houses leak. There is no running water so neighbours share an outside water tap and toilet.

The nearest hospital is far away in town and there is no healthcare nearby but Sister Ruby visits regularly. With the help of **Mission Together**, she brings food and healthcare packs to the children and arranges for doctors and dentists to run clinics on the estate. Now Ajay is growing up to be strong and healthy so that he can attend school. He hopes that when he is older he will leave the tea estate and he won't have to live in poverty, like his parents and grandparents.

Thanks to **Mission Together** Sister Ruby is doing what Jesus has asked us to do: she visits the sick and makes God's love known. But there are many more children who live in poverty overseas and who need help. This year, **Mission Together** is asking children in England and Wales to pray for, and share with, other children living in poverty overseas so that children everywhere may have access to better healthcare.

Can you help children like Ajay? By joining in prayer and friendship with other **Mission Together** children around the world, you are doing what Jesus taught and make known his great love for all God's children. Together, in this worldwide exchange of prayer and sharing you will become 'children helping children'.

Thank you and may God bless you.

Rt Rev Patrick McKinney
Bishop of Nottingham