

# WYCOMBE REFUGEE PARTNERSHIP



NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2022

## Partnership and kindness

In what is all too often a confrontational world, we stand for partnership as being the way in which society works best. Our refugee and asylum-seeking families have certainly reaped great benefits from it this Christmas.

### Gifts from Godstowe School

For the second year running, the pupils of Godstowe School have been incredibly generous and donated over 300 Christmas presents for our 65 children and young people, this time working from our Amazon wish-list, which was tailored to the individuals.

An enormous thank you to the pupils and their parents and to Rosie Lake, the teacher who led the initiative.

### Socks and smalls from John Lewis and Asda



John Lewis is also hot on partnership, of course. They gave us money which we spent on underwear for the children. If you're living on £39 per week, underwear tends to be one of the last things you buy, so the children would be going to school and then feeling humiliated to be seen in their tatty undies when changing for PE. No longer!

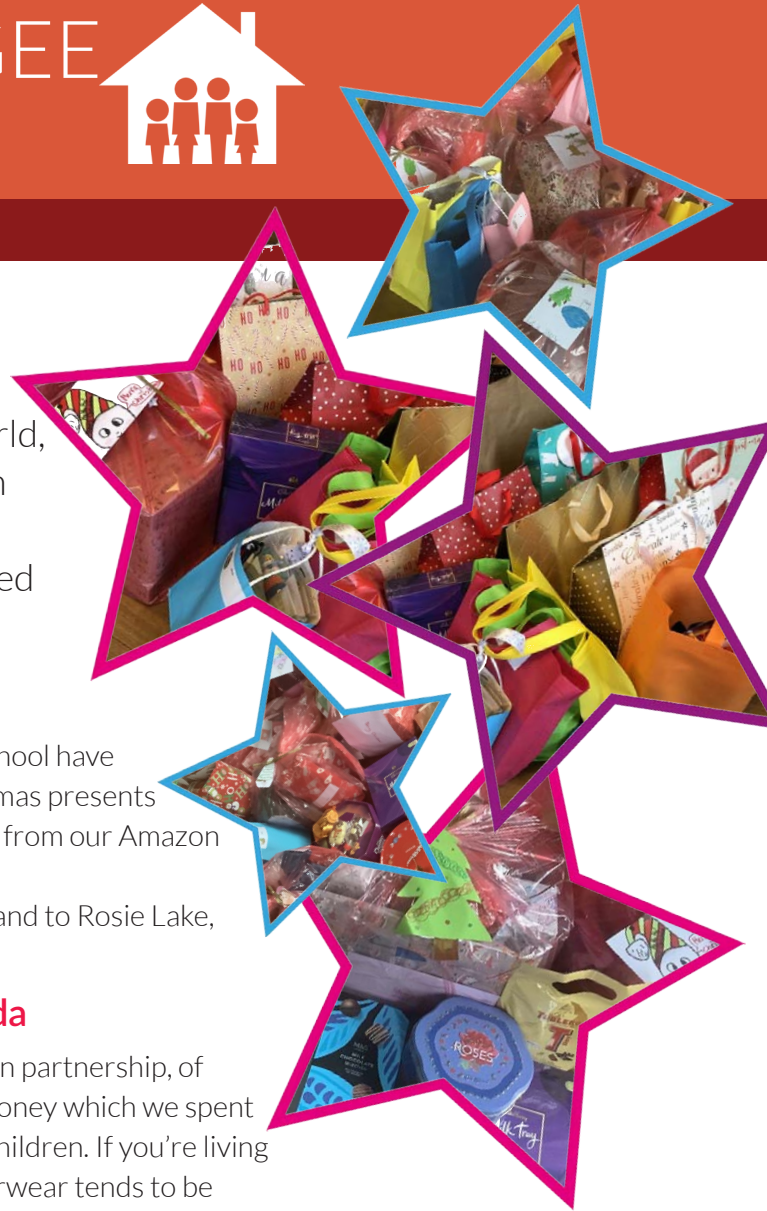
Then Asda gave us an equally generous grant and we decided to extend the operation to buy underwear and socks for the adults too.

### Little extras from Waitrose

Waitrose kindly gave us a voucher which we used to provide some of our families with treats they couldn't otherwise afford.

### Chocs and cash from Marlow Refugee Action

Our fantastic partners at Marlow Refugee Action worked with St Peter's Catholic Church, Marlow and All Saints Church in Marlow, inviting people to donate yet more presents for our families. Given how many other gifts were coming in, we asked for boxes of chocolates and cards containing £10 notes. The resultant haul was hugely appreciated by the recipients: 45 boxes of chocolates and a lot of cash in addition to the £10 notes in cards!



Above: Presents from Godstowe School, ready to be delivered

Below: Treats from Waitrose

Bottom: Chocolates from Marlow Refugee Action



## Sporty fun from Emily and Daniella

In conjunction with the Marlow Refugee Action initiative, Emily (12) and Daniella (10) set up a stall in All Saints' Church, Marlow, after the Advent Sunday services, and sold their artwork, hand-made jewellery and poetry in cards – oh, and those delicious-looking coloured discs are their hand-made soap! They have donated their substantial profits towards our Activities Fund to enable asylum-seeking children to go out and enjoy a sporting or leisure activity which they couldn't otherwise afford. Bravo!

## Magic and laughter from Jamie Jibberish

Wycombe Refugee Partnership was delighted to welcome Jamie Jibberish, the Humanitarian Magician who uses tricks to entertain children. His creative programme that was presented in several countries in the Middle East includes the use of magic as a tool to support wellbeing of traumatized children.

Jamie offered a one-hour performance to the children of our beneficiaries and an excited audience of 15 children and five adults enjoyed every single trick with amazement and laughter.

Their feedback was very positive and Jamie created an environment of happiness and lightness.

<https://magicforsmiles.com/>

## Let's sk8 with Wycombe Wanderers

Simon Wear, Head of Health at Wycombe Wanderers, has obtained funding to put on 13 weeks of free skateboarding classes for up to 12 of our girls and young women aged 12-24. The sessions are being led by a qualified coach. All the equipment has been bought new and is provided free of charge. Our volunteer Trina, who organised things from WRP's side, emailed, "Wow what a happy, happy afternoon at the first skateboarding session! I smiled for the whole hour!"

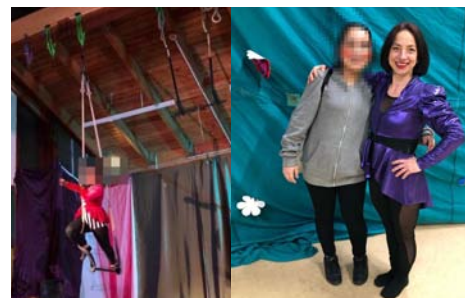
## Circus skills from Katy Cartwheel

Last September, Katy Cartwheel offered a free place on her Circus Skills course to one of our young people. The girl in question loved learning the skills and being part of such a creative, highly talented and friendly team. They put on a show in December – and donated the profits to WRP!

[https://www.facebook.com/katykartwheelcircuspasion/?modal=admin\\_todo\\_tour](https://www.facebook.com/katykartwheelcircuspasion/?modal=admin_todo_tour)

## Food funds from Great Missenden and Amersham


We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of other donations too, both from private individuals and from Great Missenden Churches Together Advent service, the Christmas Tree Fair at SS Peter and Paul in Great Missenden and Amersham Art Club. These funds will enable us to continue supporting asylum seeking families with food vouchers.



**Huge thanks to everyone involved in any of these acts of kindness!**

## Contact us

 [www.wycombe-refugees.org](http://www.wycombe-refugees.org)

 0845 643 2873

 [contactus@wycombe-refugees.org](mailto:contactus@wycombe-refugees.org)  Refugees Welcome in Wycombe

**Wycombe Refugee Partnership** 