

'In unity we learn and play in the loving hands of God'

# Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary School

Rural Church Schools Academy Trust

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Dear Parents/Carers

## **“Rejoice that your names are written in heaven”**

It was a devastating shock to find out that the bronze memorial plaques remembering the fallen were stolen from the War Memorial Gates outside St Boniface Church.

Although considered a low level crime+this act of vandalism and theft carries a real significance, hence the deep and wide-felt grief many are feeling within our community.

To some metal thieves and scrap metal merchant, the value of the bronze was nominal, but to all those who have stood by our Memorial Gates and heard the Roll of Honour read in church on Remembrance Sunday, their worth and what they stood for is of inestimable value.

As we gather together on Remembrance Sunday across the generations, we remember those from our community whose lives have been given and taken away in conflict. Our collective memory and our desire to keep their memory alive is a sacred thread that unites us all. We will not be deterred by some petty criminals. This year there will be added poignancy.

Behind every name on our Roll of Honour and soon-to-be refurbished Memorial Gates, there is a story, a family, a wife, a husband, a mother, a father - those who mourn. We will remember them.

Thank you to all those who have showed their support and posted such lovely messages. Ours is a proud, caring and beautiful community and we must continue to care for one another, in the good times and the bad. Now is a time to reflect and pause, to think about what really matters in life, to give thanks for our freedom - may we never take it for granted. We will weep with those who have lost loved ones and whose names shall never be forgotten. We will rejoice that their names are written in heaven and engraved onto the heart of God.

Nothing will ever separate them from the love of God.

Kind regards

Rev Tim Hayward

