



October 21, 2011

Dear Elmwood Parents and Students,

An important part of what we do at Elmwood is to develop a sense of the value of service to others. The weather is starting to get colder; the need for warmth and a good meal is becoming increasingly prominent. With this in mind, our annual Warm Clothing and Food Drive is coming up next week and will run from **Monday, October 24, 2011 to Tuesday, November 1, 2011.**

Students are asked to bring in gently used clothing and non-perishable food items for the duration of the week. Our final date for donations is on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Collection will take place between 7:45 and 8:10 each morning in Auditorium. The non-perishable food items will go to The Ottawa Food Bank, which provides over 40,000 people each month with emergency food assistance, 40% of whom are children. The clothing items raised will go to the Salvation Army.

For the duration of the week, there will be various activities taking place to raise awareness about these local issues. On Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Cake Auction, run by the Senior School House Council. For this event, different clubs and individuals donate cakes that are auctioned off to the students. The funds raised will go to the Ottawa Food Bank. On Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, Free the Children has organized a Pumpkin Carving Contest for the Middle and Senior School. Students sign up in advance and on the day of the event, students will decorate their pumpkin with a specified theme. The best pumpkin, chosen by judges from the Free the Children club, will win a prize.

The Warm Clothing and Food Drive will include **Free the Children's Halloween for Hunger (H4H)** on **Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**. This campaign focuses on *thinking globally and acting locally*. Students who may consider going out on Halloween night to "trick or treat" are encouraged to forego their Halloween treats, and instead, collect non-perishable food items.

In keeping with the Elmwood tradition and spirit, there will also be a challenge among the four Houses to determine which House can bring in the most warm clothing and non-perishable food items. There will be a **prize** for the House that collects the most.

We hope that you will help us to help our local community by supporting the Warm Clothing and Food Drive.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Boughton  
Headmistress

Student Leaders of  
*Free the Children and Senior House Council*