



Dear Parents,

The time has come to celebrate an immense act of selfless love in the history of humanity. One action that changed the course of humanity. One action that became the very definition of Love, the birth of Messiah, **JESUS!!!** Let's join together as God's family to follow the greatest example of love demonstrated by Christ and support the ministry of Operation Christmas Child. Both as a Christ centered school and as individual families, we will be serving in the ministry of Samaritan Purse to help build shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. This is a prodigious outreach that serves thousands of children worldwide through the distribution of Christmas presents. The ministry portrays the heart of Christ for serving others. Most importantly, it brings the eternal, everlasting gift of eternal life through the teachings of the gospel of Jesus Christ with the 12 lesson discipleship program for the children.

Our school is requesting for every child to donate either a plastic box or a shoe box filled with the items listed below. We encourage you to provide more than one box only if you have the resources to do so. More boxes would translate into more joyful children around the world. **All boxes would be free of any shipping cost until Tuesday, November 14, 2017.** After the above date, the shipping cost would be \$9 per box (cash or check payable to Samaritan Purse). One trip to the dollar store to get the necessary supplies needed for the plastic box could become a great blessing to both the student who prepared the box and the child who will receive the love of Christ. The school will have a special Chapel service on November 14 to honor and support the Samaritan Purse ministry and to pray over each box before it gets shipped.

We encourage you to see this as a heartfelt opportunity from the Lord to follow in His footsteps and become part of the Great Commission in spreading the love of Christ and spreading the Good News of eternal life.

These are the few simple steps to create a box for Operation Christmas Child:

1. **Step 1:** Pick a boy or a girl

Ages: 2-4

5-9

10-14

2. **Step 2:** Collect the items for your individual box. Please combine a few items from each of the following categories to build the box.

Toys: Include items that will WOW a child such as a plush bear, a doll, yo-yo, story book, journal dairy light up toys with extra batteries, etc.

School Supplies: pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, color pencils, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculator, coloring books, etc.

Non-liquid Hygiene items: toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, head bands, washcloths, etc.

Accessories: T-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.

Crafts: Create your own items such as hair bows, finger puppets and friendship bracelets to personalize the box.

A Personal Note: You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself and your family. If you include your name and address, the child may be able to write back.

Prohibited items: Any used or damaged items, violence provoking toys, such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; any perishable items such as chocolate, candy, food; any liquids or lotions, medications or vitamins, breakable items, such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

*Please visit the website below for more ideas and instructions.

<http://www.samaritanpurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/>

In Christ's service,

Operation Christmas Child Ministry Team

