

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – SHOEBOX APPEAL

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to show God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the good news of Jesus Christ. **The Mini Vinnies** (St Edmund's primary school branch of the St Vincent de Paul Society) are running a shoebox appeal. **We aim to fill 50 shoeboxes by 16th November.** Please support us.

WHAT TO DO:

- Select an age category: 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14
- Donate items for your shoebox with a selection of fun toys, hygiene items and school supplies. If possible, include one or two special items you know a child will love such as a doll, cuddly toy or deflated football with pump. See our Gift Suggestions below for more ideas. **Due to more stringent import regulations, toothpaste and sweets can no longer be included in shoeboxes.**
- A suggested donation of £5 is essential to cover project costs, including shipping, to enable a local church or group overseas to lead a safe, well-organised children's event where your shoebox will be given to a child in need.
- *Optionally*, you can personalise your gifts by including a hand written note and a photograph of yourself, your group or your family. You may also like to pray for the child that will receive your gift.

GIFT SUGGESTIONS



Toys

Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls or stuffed toys (with CE label), toy trucks, harmonica, yo-yo, skipping rope, ball, small puzzles etc.



School Supplies

Pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks and paper, solar calculators, colouring and picture books etc.



Hygiene Items

Toothbrush, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel. **Due to more stringent import regulations, toothpaste can no longer be included in shoeboxes.**



Other Items

Hat, cap, gloves or scarf, sunglasses, hair accessories, jewellery set, wind up torch, slinky spring, matchbox cars etc. **Due to more stringent import regulations, sweets can no longer be included in shoeboxes.**



PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE

Used or damaged items; clothing other than as listed above; war related items such as toy guns, play soldiers or knives; chocolate, sweets or other food items; seeds; aerosols; toothpaste, lotions or liquids of any type including bubbles; medicines; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; playing cards of the 4-suit variety; anything of a political, racial or religious nature; sharp objects; glass containers or fragile items; books with mainly words.

Thank you for helping. The Mini Vinnies will pack the boxes. Please drop off donations at St Edmund's School by 14th November