



Bishop John Robinson CofE Primary School

Headteacher: Mr Matthew Harris NPQH

Assistant Headteachers: Miss Sarah Biney NASENCO & Mrs Karen Ripley NPQH

School Business Manager: Mrs Karen Fletcher CSBM

Hoveton Road, Thamesmead, London SE28 8LW

Web: www.BishopJohnRobinsonPrimary.co.uk

Tel: 0208 310 9160 Email: admin@bjr.greenwich.sch.uk

Tuesday, October 31, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Our Alternative Harvest: Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

We have been learning about Cornelius the Captain in the Roman Army, from the book of Acts, chapter 10. We have been inspired by his charitable actions to help the poor, despite being a different nationality, speaking a different language and having a starting point of faith.



This year, we are supporting the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child to fill and send Christmas gift boxes from each class in our school. We have looked at an example shoe box, filled with simple gifts, to show how exciting opening the box will be. We would like each child to donate one thing for their class box, from the list of items below.

We feel that as the children who will receive these boxes have so little they deserve the best we can offer, and so we are asking for brand new toys, games and gifts.

Suggestions for what we could include are:



SHOEBOX GIFT IDEAS (AGE 5-9)



SPECIAL ITEM: Something to immediately capture the child's attention e.g. a cuddly toy, large toy car or truck, a rag doll, a deflated football and pump, a solar-powered torch.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES: Pencil case; crayons; writing pens and pencils; colouring pens and pencils; highlighters; child friendly pencil sharpener; ruler; eraser; glue stick (not liquid glue); safety scissors; small adhesive tape; notebook; drawing pad; colouring book; solid paint palette and paint brushes set; pre-linked stampers; pavement chalk; whiteboard and dry wipe pens; stencils; mini Spirograph kit; solar calculator; stickers.

ACCESSORIES: Baseball cap; sunglasses; woolly hat; gloves; mittens; scarf; hair ties; bows and dress-up headbands; small backpack; handbag or drawstring bag; purse or wallet; children's jewellery; watch; reusable non-breakable containers e.g. cup, water bottle, plate, bowl; small items of clothing e.g. socks, flip-flops, T-shirt.



GAMES: Card games, small puzzles, puzzle cubes, jacks, mini board games, etc.

TOYS: Skipping rope; tennis ball; building bricks/Lego type kit; click together model; glider kit (non-military); bead kit; play people; animal figures; dinosaurs; foldable play mat e.g. farm, zoo, city or racetrack; transport toys e.g. car, train, plane, truck or boat; plastic doll; hand or finger puppets; play dough (ideally with cookie cutters and play tools); toy tools; slinky; yo-yo; dominoes; spinning top; kaleidoscope; toy binoculars; finger skateboard; wind-up or pull-back toy; bouncy ball; inflatable beach ball; small frisbee; small kite; interactive toys that include push buttons, lights and noise (include extra batteries).



MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS: Tambourine, shaker, bells, sports whistle, recorder, harmonica, slide whistle, tin whistle, finger drums, maracas, triangle, mini xylophone, kazoo, castanets.



HYGIENE ITEMS: Toothbrush, hairbrush, comb, bar of soap, flannel, sponge, washmitt, chapstick, compact mirror (lensure protected).

A NOTE FROM YOU: Christmas card, note of greeting, photo of yourself/your family.



DO NOT INCLUDE: Toothpaste, sweets, lotions and liquids; used or damaged items; war-related items; seeds, gum, chocolate or food items; religious or political literature; medicines, aerosol cans, sharp or fragile items.

Additional information is available from: <https://cdn.samaritans-purse.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Gift-Suggestions-and-FAQs-2022-2.pdf>

Please carefully consider what you might be able to give, and kindly bring in your donations to your class teacher by **Wednesday 15th November**, so that these can be packed and taken to the collection points in readiness for dispatch.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office or speak to a member of staff.

Yours faithfully

Mr Matthew Harris, Leading Lights & School Parliament

