



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

### *A note from Mrs Pettersen -*

Now that harvest is over I'm beginning to think about Christmas. In particular, packing shoeboxes of items to send to Belarus as part of the Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child, campaign. The reason for the early planning is to allow time for the boxes to be checked centrally and then packed on to lorries and into containers to get them to children in time for Christmas. The Samaritan's Purse website is full of information about this area of their work and includes many moving images and film clips of children receiving their gifts. My favourite one is of the boy who is ecstatic on receipt of his box, even before opening it up!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hlxeSDXb\\_YM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hlxeSDXb_YM)

If you are able to help by putting any of the following items into a shoebox I would be very grateful. The collection point is at Saltwood school and Mrs Record is going to bring any filled shoe boxes from Bodsham school on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October**, so please drop any filled shoeboxes into the school office before then. This might be a nice activity to do during the half term holiday.

When I was headteacher we regularly sent 100+ boxes, it would be great if we could even fill half that number this year. Thank you in eager anticipation of your generosity towards our neighbours across the world.

To help you, below is a list of suggested items:

<u>Something fun:</u> Skipping ropes Yo Yo Slinky Dominoes Jigsaw Musical instruments	<u>Something to love:</u> Cuddly toy Rag doll Puppets Wind up toy Small ball Deflated football and pump	<u>Something creative:</u> Chalk Crayons Colouring book Playdoh Stencils	<u>Something to keep:</u> clean with: Toothbrush Toothpaste Flannel Hairbrush Chapstick
<u>Something to put on:</u> Hat Gloves Mittens Scarf Ribbons Hair clip Bracelet Necklace	<u>Something to learn with:</u> Writing pens Sharpener Eraser Ruler Exercise book Pencil case	<u>Items to avoid:</u> War related items Food items other than sweets (no chocolate) Hand made toys with stuffing Glass items Liquids Aerosols	<u>Items to avoid:</u> Sharp objects Medicines Books with many words Unwrapped scented items 4 suit cards

There are also lots of ideas about packing a shoebox on the Samaritan's Purse website.

Kindest regards

*Mrs E Pettersen*