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Dear Parents / Carers,

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – SHOE BOX APPEAL 2016

Operation Christmas Child sends a message of hope to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes. It is the world's largest children's Christmas project. Since 1990 the project has brought the joy of Christmas to more than 80 million boys and girls throughout the world.



Last year over 8 million shoe boxes were sent to children in hospitals, orphanages, homeless shelters and poor communities. Children in over 130 countries have received a shoe box since 1990. Often a shoe box full of gifts is the only present these children will receive at Christmas.

Once again we have decided as a school to support this project. Our aim is for each child to make a shoe box that can be sent to disadvantaged children. Items that can be included in a shoebox must be new and below are some suggestions:

- **new small toys:** games, puzzles, soft toys, balls, cars (no playing cards)
- **school supplies:** pencils, pens, erasers, sharpeners, felt pens, paper, colouring books, notepad, chalk, crayons
- **toiletries:** soap, flannel, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, brush (no bottles)
- **something to wear:** hat, scarf, gloves, socks

If you would like to make a shoe box at home, please refer to the leaflet enclosed with this letter. Please include a cash or cheque donation of £3 per shoe box for transport and logistics costs. Place in your shoe box on top of the contents and secure the lid with a rubber band, remembering to mark the shoebox with the Girl / Boy label provided with the leaflet. Alternatively, you can donate online, using the link shown on the leaflet.

We need to receive the shoe boxes in school no later than **Friday 4th November** so that we can take them to the nearest drop off point ready for delivery.

If you want any further information about the project, please check the website address:
www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk.

We appreciate your assistance in supporting this valuable project and hope that together we can bring some joy into the lives of children who would otherwise have nothing this Christmas.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Callaway
Headteacher