



RED HOUSE
SCHOOL

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4 October 2019

Dear Parents

Christmas Shoebox Appeal: Years 4-6

As part of our ongoing charity efforts, we are working with the local Rotary club again this year to support their Christmas Shoebox Appeal, which aims to provide some much needed cheer to children and adults in Eastern Europe. We are asking pupils in Years 4-6 to fill the supplied shoebox with gifts and return it to school by **Friday 18 October**. As well as helping disadvantaged children overseas, the project helps our pupils to understand that others in the world are not as fortunate as we are and that 'giving' as a responsibility can be a joy to fulfil.

The Rotary Club have four types of boxes you can choose to fill:

- Teenager's Box (indicate boy or girl)
- Children's Box (indicate boy or girl)
- Household Box
- Baby Box

It may be worth mentioning, that teenage boy and household boxes are usually the ones that are in shortest supply. Please circle the letters on the lid to indicate the contents and please do not mix the contents. Each box is selected by category and given to an individual, based on the information on the lid. The pupils may like to decorate the box to make it look more attractive. Below are a few ideas for the different boxes:

Toys for Boys & Girls

Cars, trucks, balls, complete jigsaws, action figures, colouring books, pens, crayons, lego blocks, yo-yo, bubble blowers, wooden and plastic toys, building blocks, pencil case, pencil sharpener, dominoes, playdough/plastercine & cutters, fluffy toys, dolls, stickers, writing pads, skipping rope, scarf, mittens/gloves, hat, harmonica, games, cards...

Teenagers - For young people up to 18 years age

Sportswear, scarf, gloves, socks, hat, football memorabilia, writing materials, games, playing cards, tennis ball, tooth brush & paste, deodorants, comb, mirror, costume jewellery, make-up, hair brush, toiletries, school stationery, clothing repair kits, sketch pad, coloured pens / pencils...

Household Goods - For older folk & families

Scarfs, gloves, hats, wrapped soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, disposable razors, shampoo, soap flakes, pan scourers, antiseptic cream, bandages, face or body creams, cosmetics, pens, writing pad & envelopes, T lights, candles, sewing kit, scissors...

Baby - Age up to 12 months

This is given to new mothers and can include baby wipes, cotton wool buds, baby shampoo, baby oil, talc powder, bonnet, booties and mitts, baby grow, knitted matinee coat, small soft toy or plastic rattle...

WHAT NOT TO INCLUDE IN BOXES

Food, sweets, chocolate & drinks, battery operated toys, conflict related items, matches, inflammable liquids, inflammable aerosols (e.g.: deodorants & hair spray), seeds or any other living material, automatic washing machine powders, & washing-up liquid (*these tend to leak when laid flat*)

For safety

- Please securely sellotape tops of liquid containers.
- Protect anything sharp and do not put anything sharp into a toys box.
- Too big for your box - We will accept all suitable items of any size (please ensure soft toys are bagged to protect them)

A card with the sender's name and a photograph is also a nice thing to include.

Above all, the contents should be of good quality, remembering that the recipient will be opening the box in eager anticipation and, especially with the toys for the children, quite possibly the first real gifts they have received for a very long time.

The Rotary Club only accept items packed in their own boxes, which are designed specifically to protect the contents and stand the stacking & transport requirements by road. (Real shoe boxes vary in size and are not as sturdy). There will be a limited number of spare boxes available in school. If you feel you could fill more than one box, your child can collect an extra one from Room 16 (Miss Thompson's room).

To further support this charitable appeal, please could you sellotape a £1-£2 donation onto the box as a contribution towards the transportation of the boxes to Eastern Europe. If you would like to find out more about the appeal, please visit their website:
<https://www.rotaryshoebox.org/#1509807650116-890cdff5-8233>

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your efforts in supporting our charitable events. We very much appreciate your contribution to helping those less fortunate than ourselves, particularly at this time of year.

Yours sincerely

Miss Thompson

Miss C Thompson
Head of Prep