



Dear Parents,

As a school, we will be working with Operation Christmas Child to put a SMILE on a child's face. It is an organization where each shoebox is filled by Canadians with hygiene items, school supplies, and toys, and is given to children regardless of gender, race, or religion. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Smile, has collected and delivered more than 135 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 150 countries and territories! In order to meet the deadline of the drop-off centre in Newmarket, we are asking for items/boxes to be at school by Wednesday, November 20, 2019 so they can be dropped off in time. Please send a note in with your child if you would like an Operation Christmas Child box. You can also use a shoebox. If you do not wish to create an entire box, you could send in loose items and we can create boxes here at school. There will be a table set up in the foyer during interviews, or you can send the items in with your child. The gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the child's age categories are 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14.

This year, we as a school can make a child's Christmas.

Some items you can bring to help fill a shoebox are:

[http://samaritanspurse.ca/media/431675/OCC-List-of-Approved-Items\\_2016.pdf](http://samaritanspurse.ca/media/431675/OCC-List-of-Approved-Items_2016.pdf)

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|---|-------------------------------------|
| Tooth brush                                 | - Hair brush                        |
| - Pencils, crayons, erasers, sharpener, etc | - Notepad                           |
| - Colouring books                           | - Books                             |
| - Small stuffed animals                     | - Any small toy (Soccer ball, Doll, |
| - Mittens, hats, scarves,                   | hot wheels, etc)                    |
| - Personal note                             |                                     |

Do NOT include:

- Decks of standard playing cards (other card games such as UNO are allowed)
- Food or candy: Including gum, chocolate, etc (due to customs regulations)
- Used items (due to customs regulations)
- Liquids or items that could leak, melt, freeze, or break - Shampoo, creams, lip balm, bath gels, toothpaste, mirrors, or glass, etc.

We as St. Teresa Catholic School hope you can make a difference by making this holiday a great one for a child out there who would have had no presents this year otherwise.

The following links are information for you if you wish to create a box on your own with your family.

[What to fill your shoebox with](#) How to pack a shoebox:

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/>