

# Meir Heath Academy

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## KS2 Big Harvest Give Away



Dear Parents/Carers,

You are warmly invited to join your child and KS2 in celebrating Harvest together at 2.30 pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October. We are writing to you to explain a little about this event, the charity we are supporting and what you can do to help us to help children around the world.

### Operation Christmas Child

This year, as part of our Harvest, we are supporting the charity Samaritan's Purse. We will be helping to collect items for their project Operation Christmas Child.

### What is Operation Christmas Child?

Since 1990, Operation Christmas Child – an initiative of the Christian relief and development agency Samaritan's Purse – has been blessing underprivileged children around the world with gift-filled shoeboxes wrapped and packed by children and adults in the UK. It's a campaign that thousands of schools, churches and other organisations from across the UK get involved with between September and November each year. In fact, it is now the UK's largest children's Christmas appeal.

### How can you help?

As an academy we would like to collect as many items as we can, so we can make as many shoeboxes as possible. This will not only support Operation Christmas Child but will also enable our children to be a part of something worldwide. It will hopefully help them to understand the value, impact and importance of giving and helping others.

There are only certain items that can be used in these shoe boxes and it is **really important that they are unused, new items (rules from the charity)**. We have allocated each year group a selection of items to choose from but of course, we would be grateful for any items from the lists (P.T.O).

**Please send your item/items in with your child on the morning of the 19<sup>th</sup> October to their classroom. Thank you!** 😊

Following this, we will see how many shoe boxes we can fill and send these, with any extra items to St.Paul's Church, Longton Hall, Blurton (this is a drop off point for Operation Christmas Child).

We really appreciate all of your help and support for our forthcoming Harvest. If you have any questions please ask at the office, speak to your child's class teacher, or speak to Mrs Povey. We look forward to celebrating harvest with you on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30 pm.

Thank you for your continued support in all areas of school life.

Mrs Povey

<p><b><u>Year 3</u></b> <b><u>Toys</u></b></p>  <p>Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls or stuffed toys (with CE label), toy trucks, small musical instrument e.g. harmonica, yo-yo, skipping rope, ball, play-doh, slinky, finger puppets, small puzzles etc.</p>	<p><b><u>Year 4</u></b> <b><u>School Supplies</u></b></p>  <p>Pens, pencils, small manual sharpeners, crayons, felt pens, pencil case stamps &amp; ink pad sets, writing pads, notebooks &amp; paper, solar calculators, colouring &amp; picture books.</p>
<p><b><u>Year 5</u></b> <b><u>Hygiene Items</u></b></p>  <p>Toothbrush and toothpaste, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel, Reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl, blunt-edged utensils.</p>	<p><b><u>Year 6</u></b> <b><u>Other Items</u></b></p>  <p>Hat, cap, gloves or scarf, sunglasses (with the UV or CE mark) hair accessories e.g. bows, clips, jewellery set, wind up torch, small bag or purse, Wrapped sweets (best-before-date must be at least March of the following year).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>There are some items that we cannot include these are....</u></b></p>  <p>Used or damaged items, war related items such as toy guns, play soldiers or knives; chocolate or other food items; liquids or lotions of any type including bubbles; medicines; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; anything of a political, racial or religious nature; sharp objects; glass containers, mirrors or fragile items; playing cards of the 4-suit variety; clothing other than as listed above.</p>	

For further information please log on to <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox/>