



What is Operation Christmas Child?

Operation Christmas Child is a hands-on way for Australians and New Zealanders to bless children in need around the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, hygiene items, school supplies and other fun gifts. We collect the gift-filled shoeboxes and distribute them to children in over 100 countries in the Name of Jesus Christ. It is also a good reminder to our children that there are many children in the world who have none of the things that we think are necessities.

After receiving a shoebox gift, many children have the opportunity to enrol in The Greatest Journey – a dynamic, 12-lesson Bible study course that guides children through what it means to faithfully follow Jesus Christ. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to provide God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

What can you do to help?

We are asking each child to purchase one item and place it in their class' collection box during **Week 9 of Term 3**. These boxes will be collected on **Friday 23rd Sept** and will be packed into individual shoeboxes over the school holidays. The total number of boxes and photos will be in the first issue of Bytes for Term 4.

Class allocations:

K-2 Boy and Girl age 2-4

3-6 Boy and Girl age 5-9

7-10 Boy and Girl age 10-14

Collection boxes will be placed in the wet area of each Junior School classroom during **Week 9** for students to place their donation in. There will be a Boy and a Girl box in the High School Office area for High School donations to be placed in.

All items must be new, no used items

Items to include:

- A **“wow” item** – Doll, Stuffed toy, Dress-ups, Balls, Bag, Skipping Rope, Toy car
- **Personal care** – Toothbrush, Face washer, Bar of soap, Comb or brush, Band-aids, Plastic cup or plate, Small water bottle
- **School supplies** – Pencils, Pens, Coloured pencils, Exercise books, Ruler, Eraser, Sharpener
- **Clothing** – Dress, Shorts, T-shirt, Underwear, Hat, Thongs, Sunglasses, Hair accessories
- **Crafts and Activities** – Small sticky tape, Stickers, Puzzles, Watercolour paint set, Colouring books, Crayons, Small make-it-yourself craft kit.
- **Toys** – Lego, Ribbon wands, Hand puppets, Yoyos, Small Frisbee, Small kite, Plastic toys and toy figures (not war related), Marbles, Plastic tools, Slinkies.
- **Personal note** – You may include a note to the child and a photo of yourself and/or family

Do not include:

Lollies, food of any kind, drink mixes, liquid paint, toothpaste, shampoo, bubbles, medicine, vitamins, any used items, glass, porcelain, mirrors, war-related items (toy guns, knives, military figures, skull & crossbones), Halloween items, play money, playing cards, dominoes, tracts or Bibles.

If time is short: we are also asking for small monetary donations of any amount to assist with the cost of postage and handling (\$10 per box) and we would also like to have enough money to be able to include “The Greatest Journey” Discipling course with each box (\$10 per box).

All gifts of money are to be placed in the box in the School Office foyer.