

Friday, November 6th, 2019.

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As part of our call to be servant leaders, we as a Catholic School Community will be working in partnership with The Knights of Columbus of Oakville Marian Council No. 3881 by participating in a school wide project called **Operation Christmas Child**. This experience will serve as an opportunity for us to get involved in experiencing the gift of giving a Christmas gift to a less fortunate child living in any one of over 100 countries around the world.

Operation Christmas Child is run by The Samaritans Purse. This is an organization that delivers shoe boxes filled with various items around the world to children less fortunate than us. **These boxes truly become a symbol of hope and faith for millions of children every year.** Thank you for your generosity!

We are asking your family's participation in this school wide initiative. Each classroom will be responsible for two shoe boxes... one for a girl and one for a boy. We suggest that you purchase according to your own child's age. **Families can request their own box to fill as a family, if you wish.**

Christmas boxes can be filled by a trip to a department or dollar store. Gift ideas can include small cars, balls, skipping ropes, pens, pencils, crayons, colouring books, hygiene items, t-shirts, jewelry etc. **DUE TO CUSTOM REGULATIONS, DO NOT PACK** the following items: toothpaste, food and/or any chewy, crumbly or soft candy including gum, used items, decks of playing cards, liquids or items that could leak, melt, freeze or break. **A \$10.00 donation helps with shipping the shoe box! Thank you!**

All items are due by November the 13th. They will be packaged by staff and left to sit over the weekend.

Please note that delivery is scheduled **for November 20th, 2020.** **To pack a box online:**
https://packabox.samaritanspurse.ca/?sc=SG20ADOCDS&_ga=2.149823158.1292519338.1604691237-787131932.1603901976

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and participation. This will prove to be a humbling experience for our children, our future. It is wonderful to know that our community will play a great role in making the difference in the lives of children around the world this Christmas. Through the power of a simple gift we will work together to make such a difference.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Mr. P. Vigna

Principal

St. Raphael Catholic School

Mrs. Gigliotti

Gr. 5/6 Teacher

Student Council

