



Dear Parents,

As part of our school's special social outreach for our 25th anniversary, Annunciation students are being asked to participate in the "Box of Joy" program from Cross Catholic International.

A "Box of Joy" consists of a shoebox filled with small items such as travel size toiletries, school supplies, small toys, and religious articles. These are distributed by Catholic orphanages and mission churches in Third World countries served by Cross Catholic, such as Haiti, Ecuador, Rwanda, and many others.

Our goal is to prepare 10 boxes per homeroom, from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8, for a total of 200 boxes for our entire school. Each class will begin collecting **new** items for the boxes and will also accept donations to cover the cost of shipping the boxes. The shipping cost per box is \$9, \$2 of which will purchase grain and rice for every family that receives a box. *So, per class, 10 boxes and a total of \$90 for shipping and food.*

On the reverse of this letter is the official list of the items that can be included in a Box of Joy. Please note there are some items that cannot be shipped such as liquids, foods, chocolate, and breakable items.

We will kick-off our "Box of Joy" plan on the Monday after Thanksgiving and will run it until Friday, January 12 so that we may complete our collection/packing in time for Catholic Schools Week, January 29-February 2. Students will also watch the Box of Joy video clip from the Cross Catholic website: <http://www.crosscatholic.org/boxofjoy>. This website has plenty of information about the program which the school will utilize to instruct students about living a life of Christian stewardship and to motivate them to complete the project.

This will be a very special way to celebrate our Catholic school identity by demonstrating to students how we share God's love by our outreach to the less fortunate. Thank you for helping us in our mission to foster the Christian ideal of service.

Miss Farrington

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GIFT IDEAS

KEY REMINDERS

1. Use the provided gift box or any shoebox (approximately 12" x 5")
2. Fill out and attach the Boy/Girl label to box lid if needed
3. Include \$9 check (no cash please) in provided envelope. Place on top of gifts.
4. Secure the lid with a rubber band (no tape please).

PERSONAL NOTES & PHOTOS:

We encourage you to write a personal note or handmade Christmas card and share a photo of yourself or family (advisable for parent or teacher to review notes written by children).

TOYS

Handheld toys
Small plush animals
Small balls (tennis, etc.)
Ball (deflate) with pump
Cars / Trucks
Doll
Mini puzzle
Finger puppets
Silly putty
Bean bag / Hacky sack
Unopened fast food toys
Binoculars
Legos
Harmonica, kazoo or other small instrument
jump rope
Paddle ball
Yo-yo
Slinky
Mini board games
Balloons
Craft kit (beads, elastic, etc.)
Pom-poms

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Pencils, colored pencils
Solar calculator
Sharpener
Small board books
Erasers
Pencil case
Crayons
Pens, markers
Ruler
Glue stick (no liquid)
Safety scissors
Coloring book
Notepads
Stickers
Self-inking stamp
Flash cards
Dry paints (no liquid paint)

HARD CANDY & GUM

Please seal in a Ziploc-style bag (No chocolates)

APPAREL

Socks
Shorts
Underwear
T-shirts
Flip flops
Bandanas
Hats
Shoelaces
Plastic poncho

HYGIENE / HOME

Comb / Brush
Forks & Spoons
Cup / Bottle with lid
Bar Soap
Toothpaste (in the box)
Toothbrush and floss
Bandages
Hand wipes (no gels)
Tissues
Lip balm
Manicure kit
Nail clippers / Emery board

ACCESSORIES

Watch
Purse or wallet
Sunglasses
Necklace
Hair ribbons
Hair / Head bands
Barrettes
Bracelets
Earrings
Scarf
Cross or Rosary

USEFUL ITEMS

Sewing kit
Utensils
Compass
LED keychain
Duct tape
No-battery flashlight
Drawstring bag

DO NOT PACK

Food or Beverages • Medicines or Vitamins • Liquids (shampoo, nail polish, etc.) • Gels (antibacterial, etc.)
Chocolate • Military / Police Toys • Toy Weapons • Glass / Breakables • Knives / Tools



800-914-2420 ext. 142 • www.CrossCatholic.org/BoxOfJoy • BoxOfJoy@CrossCatholic.org