

Greatham primary school

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7th October 2025

Dear Parents,

This year for our thanksgiving harvest celebrations the new Vicar of St John the Baptist Church, Greatham - Reverend Richard Wharton - will lead a special assembly of thanks on Wednesday 22nd October 2025. We will walk with the children to the church for the service which will begin at 2pm. All of the children will be included in this service.

Our 2025 harvest charity will be Operation Christmas Child run by the Samaritan's Purse. Please could each child donate a small gift to contribute towards a class shoebox of gifts that will be given to boys and girls who are victims of war or famine. This is the website for the charity.

https://occ.samaritans-purse.org.uk/?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=23023624685&gbraid=0AAAAAD1oMIWXRuAuD9Q3brD8QogpEh71a&gclid=CjwKCAjw-3GBhAYEiwAjh9fUHRAm9ODXud8mW5rgTpU_ac1YrCcLKn2NRx5iE0JRGzdQ2q_u1c-rhoCvHUQAvD_BwE

We would love each class to fill two 'shoeboxes' that are laden with little gifts for a boy and a girl their age.

The list of items that are suitable is attached to this letter. Please bring in one item from the list on **Wednesday 22nd October**. Gifts should be taken directly into the classroom- where they will be packed.

More details on Operation Christmas Child, along with an invitation from Hope Church to join their Shoebox Packing Party, is attached to this letter.

Many thanks in advance.

Miss Goman



Please donate 1 item for a boy or a girl your own age- it must be able to fit in a shoe box!

Special Item (a special toy that will capture a child's attention as soon as they open the box):

- Cuddly toy Football and pump
- Toy truck Doll
- Musical instrument Toys
- Toy cars Animal figures
- Building blocks Skipping rope
- Tennis ball Yo-yo
- Spinning top Mini frisbee
- Fidget spinner Finger puppets
- Slinky Travel games
- Small musical instruments Small puzzles etc.

School Supplies:

- Pens
- Pencils & sharpeners
- Crayons
- Felt tip pens
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Writing pads or notebook
- Solar calculators
- Geometry set
- Glue stick
- Pre-inked Stampers
- Colouring books
- Watercolour paint set (solid only)
- Safety scissors
- Craft kits

Personal Care Items

- Comb
- Hairbrush
- Toothbrush
- Flannel
- Bar soap (packaged and/or in a container)
- Sponge
- Reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl, blunt-edged utensils (Fill an empty container with non-liquid items such as sunglasses or flannel to make use of the space)
- Nail clippers and file
- Stick deodorant
- Compact mirror

Accessories and Other items

- Hat, gloves
- Sunglasses, cap
- T-shirt, socks
- Flip-flops
- Drawstring bag
- Hair bows or clips
- Friendship bracelets (woven with yarn or embroidery thread)
- Wind-up Torch
- A personal note



Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse. It is a hands-on way for you to help children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, personal care items, school supplies, and fun gifts. When victims of war, poverty, disasters, disease, and famine cry out for help, Samaritan's Purse is often the first to answer. Find out more [here](#)

There are several ways you can support the project:

1. Pack a shoebox on line [here](#)
2. Pack a shoebox at home. Boxes/info/labels etc can be picked up from the school office - Please bring filled boxes to the school office by 7th November
3. Come along to the packing party (see below)
4. Donate [here](#) to help Hope Church buy contents for the boxes for the party (*Please quote reference Op C Child*)

You are invited to a Shoebox Packing Party run by Hope Church at Greatham School

On Sunday 2nd November at 1.30 pm

Please RSVP to sue.godby@sky.com if you'd like to come or want to know more
So we can give you details and get enough boxes

