



November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Dear Junior School families,

**Re: Annual Holiday Fundraising Campaign 2010**

As you all know, the holiday season is approaching and many children around the world do not have the privilege of celebrating, due to extreme poverty, warfare, or other hardships. This year, Elmwood Junior School's Holiday Fundraising Campaign will be "Operation Christmas Child," an annual project of the Samaritan's Purse Charity, which helps to send gift boxes to children in need around the world.

Our goal is to try to create 100 gift boxes to donate to Operation Christmas Child. Each student in Junior School will receive a "shoebox" and an information booklet to bring home. Participation in this initiative is voluntary – if you choose to participate, please discuss with your daughter whether your gift box will be for a boy or for a girl, and whether the age category will be 2-4 years, 5-9 years or 10-14 years. **You will find a label on the back of the information booklet that should be cut out and attached to the gift box, indicating age group and gender.**

Once you have decided on the category, please fill the box with a number of small, inexpensive items that a boy or girl of your chosen age group would enjoy. Samaritan's Purse suggests items such as school supplies, small stuffed animals, small musical instruments, hair clips, toy jewelry, t-shirts, socks and candy (loose, individually wrapped, hard candy in a sealable bag – no chewy, crumbly or soft candy, please.) Hygiene items, such as soap, toothbrush and toothpaste can also be included – please place in a sealable bag. Finally, include a personal note and/or a photo to go into the box. Please refer to the information pamphlet for items that should not be included in your box.

**To cover shipping costs, Samaritan's Purse also requests a \$7 donation** (cash or cheque, made payable to Samaritan's Purse) – this can be placed in an envelope inside your shoebox, or given directly to Mrs. Hay. **Please do not wrap your box – it will need to be opened to go through customs.**

Completed boxes and donations must be brought to your daughter's Homeroom **by Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**. This will allow time for the boxes to be delivered to developing countries in time for the Holiday Season. Samaritan's Purse will be collecting the boxes from Elmwood School.

A famous man once said, "*Be the change you want to see.*" This year, we hope you will join us in making a change for a child in need by supporting this initiative.

Sincerely,

Courtney Townsend (Grade 10)  
Project Leader

Kate Angell  
Deputy Head of School