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Dear Parents/Carers,

Just as we hope to return back to some kind of post-pandemic normality, we have been affected by an outbreak of COVID, that has hit Year 5 particularly hard (both staff and pupils). We have more than 23 pupils who have tested positive across the school this week.

For the first time, we have had to close a class today (Y5) and provide remote learning instead because of a lack of teaching staff. I would like to thank you all again for your support and communication over COVID. This has been an extremely challenging term because of staff absence but I would like to pay tribute to my colleagues for the fantastic teamwork and for going above and beyond to limit the impact on children.

### **Ukraine Appeal**

Next Friday when we have a non-school uniform day for Comic Relief, we will be dividing the money raised between Comic Relief and The Red Cross appeal for Ukraine. In addition, we are supporting KCC's response – please read below. One of our parents (Mrs Stiles) is co-ordinating the collection but will be taking the shoebox collection and sensibly bagged up items to the collection point on Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. If you could leave any items under the awning on Monday by 9:00 am, Mrs Stiles will take them to the collection point in Folkestone.

### **Kent County Council's Shoebox appeal for Ukraine**

Help us fill 'shoe boxes of smiles' for the children of Ukraine who have had to flee and bring them a little happiness in the hardest of times.

- Fill a shoe box
- Decorate it and/or wrap the box in bright colours. (Do not seal the lid to the box – it needs to be able to be opened to be checked at checking stations)
- Put a card in it if you wish to (No personal addresses or phone numbers to be enclosed)
- Write on the top of your box clearly approximate age the box is for, and whether it is for Male/Female/Unisex
- Secure box together with an elastic band
- Attach a list of the contents of the box to the underside (For custom's reasons)
- Then take your completed box to one of the below drop off points.
- All boxes will then be collected and taken to pre-organised drop off stations to be included in Aid shipments to the Ukraine borders and surrounding countries for those directly affected.



Kent County Council are also taking donations of any new and used good quality items, which may directly assist those in need. Please do not include any monetary donations in the boxes. Any donations of this kind should be made [via Red Cross](#).

#### Ideas of items to include in your 'shoe box of smiles'

- Small teddy/cuddly toy
- Sweets and biscuits (No chocolate)
- Small toys (nothing war related), fidget toys, tubs of playdough/plasticine, toy cars, toy dinosaurs, dressing up items, puzzles, bubbles, small ball.
- Children's wash items – Flannels, sponges, soap, toothbrushes, and toothpaste, shower gels
- Tissues and/or baby wipes
- Hair ties, clips, headbands
- Hairbrushes/combs
- Activity books, colouring books, colouring paper, diaries, Pens, pencils, & crayons
- Hat/scarves and Gloves
- Socks/tights
- Small clothing items
- Small blankets
- Kids novelty torches
- Older Children's Hair products
- Older Children phone chargers, power banks and headphones
- A card with a kind message in

**\*\*Please do not include nuts, chocolate or anything glass based \*\***

#### Donations of other items accepted - please bag and label all donations

Medical	Food/Drink	Toiletries
First aid kits	Protein bars	Toothbrushes
Field bandages	3 in 1 coffee sachets	Toothpaste
Paracetamol	Small packets of nuts/raisins	Body wash
Ibuprofen	Peanut butter in plastic jars	Wet wipes
Cold/Flu treatment	Cup of soups	Pocket tissues
Antiseptic cream	Baby milk	Shower gel
Bandages	Pet food	Nappies/pull ups of all sizes
Sterile dressings		Sanitary towels
Surgical tape		Tampons
Wound closure strips		Hair brushes
Multivitamins		Shampoo
Vicks vapour rub		
Barrier cream		
Cough syrup		
Antiseptic body wipes		
Hand gel		
Blood bags		
Foil blankets		
Blankets		
Sleeping bags/baby sleep bags		

Donations of clothing and tool items accepted - please bag and label all donations

Clothing	Tools
Thermal vests/pants	Spanners
Balaclavas	Socket sets
Shoe inserts	Torches with batteries
Hand and feet warmers	Walkie talkies
Opaque tights for men/women(large size)	Waterproof ground sheets/sleeping mats
Snoods	Headwork lights (preferably red light)
Fingerless mittens	Dry bags (dark colours)
Cheap reading glasses	Tow ropes
Thick coats/jackets/jumpers	Thermal blankets
	Foil body wraps
	Boot driers
	Plastic cups, plates and cutlery
	Diesel generators
	Batteries
	Torches
	Candles

Thank you in advance for any support that you are able to provide for this appeal.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Alison Higgins