



MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P. Gibson

MSc (Educational Leadership), BA (Economics)



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15 November 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

Reading Family Aid – Toys and Teens Appeal – Monday 27 November – Friday 1 December 2023

On Monday 27 November to Friday 1 December the school will be supporting the Reading Toys and Teens appeal. In 2021, 27% of Reading's children were living in poverty - that's 9,000 children.

Maiden Erlegh is proudly supporting this appeal and striving to provide Christmas gifts to children living with poverty and other disadvantages in the Reading area.

We are inviting students to bring in 'new' or 'nearly new' toys for children aged 0-16 years. These will be given to disadvantaged children in Reading who otherwise won't receive a gift this Christmas. The attached list is not an exhaustive list, it is to provide ideas of the sorts of items that can and cannot be used.

Students can contribute in the following ways:

- Monday 27 November – Friday 1 December – Put items in the collect boxes that will be in their Heads of Year's office/Sixth form study area.
- Tuesday 28 November – 8.20am collection the main hall
- Friday 1 December – 8.20am collection in the main hall.

The deadline for handing in items is **Friday 1 December**. Please do not wrap the items.

In December 2022 gifts were given to over 3000 children. We hope that as many students as possible contribute towards this worthy cause, so that we can increase the number of children receiving gifts.

Yours sincerely

Miss S Young
Assistant Headteacher



Toys and Teens Appeal

Donations Wish List

We are accepting new and 'as new' toys for children aged 0–16. These will be given to disadvantaged children in Reading who otherwise won't receive a gift this Christmas. This is not an exhaustive list, it is to provide ideas of the sorts of items we can and can't use

Birth to 2 Years

- Board or lift-the-flap books
- Rattles
- Teething or comforter toys
- Stacking cups
- Shape sorters
- Wooden shape jigsaws
- Sensory toys
- Small toy prams and buggies and similar small push along items
- Bath toys
- Play mats
- Megablocks or Duplo
- Clothes for babies/toddlers

Age 6 to 9

- Colouring books, felt pens and coloured pencils
- Art and Crafts sets
- Playdoh
- Fidget toys and similar sensory toys
- Lego
- Cars/lorries and garage sets
- Books
- Footballs
- Jigsaws
- Board games
- Construction sets e.g. Meccano
- Dolls with clothing
- Dressing up clothes
- Hats, gloves and scarves

Age 14 to 16

- Colouring books and sketch pads
- Art and Craft sets
- Colouring pens, paints and pencils
- Books for teens and young adults
- Board Games
- Technic and Lego kits
- Toiletry and make up sets
- Wallets/purses
- Bags/ Rucksacks
- Hats, gloves and scarves
- Sports equipment
- Bedroom lights/neon signs
- Headphones/Earphones/Speaker
- Gift Vouchers for teenagers eg. Oracle, Primark, Sports Direct, Boots, New Look, Steam, Waterstones, Cinemas etc.

Age 3 to 5

- Colouring books and crayons, felt pens and coloured pencils
- Sticker books
- Paints
- Playdoh
- Barbies and similar
- Lego
- Cars/lorries and garage sets
- Books
- Jigsaws
- Dolls with clothing
- Dressing up clothes
- Small toy prams and similar small push along items
- Hats, gloves, and scarves

Age 10 to 13

- Board games
- Colouring books, coloured pencils, and pens
- Art and Craft sets
- Lego
- Books
- Footballs
- Jigsaws
- Construction sets eg. Meccano
- Chemistry sets
- Hats, gloves, and scarves
- Toiletry Sets
- Makeup for young teens
- Hair accessories for young teens: brushes/combs/new hair styling items

What we don't want

- Any old, dirty, broken or incomplete toys
- Toys with missing characters, animals or parts
- Second hand electrical items or re-chargeable items
- Religious books
- Educational books and workbooks, reading scheme books, home schooling books.
- Guns or any combat items
- Clothes (except for the above)
- CDs and DVDs
- Computer Games
- Past years annuals and record books
- Food items including sweets, chocolates and biscuits
- Large items like bikes, pool tables, ride-ons
- Soft toys