MAIDEN ERLEGH
SCHOOL
Co-Headteachers: Alison Morgan & Ceri Burns
BA (Hons) | BA(Hons) PGCE, Ma (Education) & NPQH

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6 November 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian

Reading Family Aid – Toys and Teens Appeal

Once again the school will be supporting the Reading Toys and Teens appeal.

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 below list is not an exhaustive list, it is to provide ideas of the sorts of items that can and cannot be used. The Toys and Teens Appeal would like to highlight that 51% of the gift requests they receive are for children aged 13 - 16 years, however all contributions for all children of all ages will be gratefully received.

Students can contribute by bringing donations to the PE office from Monday 30 November – Friday 4 December 2026.

The deadline for handing in items is **Friday 4 December 2026**. Please do not wrap the items.

In December 2025 gifts were given to over 2600 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
S. Pepper
Miss S Pepper
Teacher of Physical Education

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Toys and Teens Appeal

Donations Wish List

We are accepting new and 'as good as new' toys and gifts for children aged 0–16. These will be given to disadvantaged children in Reading who may not receive a gift this Christmas.

Birth to 2 Years

Lift-the-flap or board books
Teething toys
Stacking cups
Shape sorters
Wooden shape jigsaws
Sensory toys - things that light up, make different noises, different textures
Bath toys
Small toy prams and buggies etc.
Megabloks or Duplo
Play mats

Age 3 to 5

Colouring books, pens and coloured pencils
Sticker books
Playdoh
Barbies, Action Figures or similar
Duplo and Lego
Vehicles and Dinosaurs
Books
Jigsaw Puzzles
Dolls
Role play toys and Dressing up clothes
Small toy prams and buggies etc.
Hats, gloves and scarves

Age 6 to 9

Colouring books, felt pens and coloured pencils
Art and Crafts sets
Fidget toys and similar sensory toys
Lego or similar
Barbies, Action Figures or similar
Books
Footballs
Jigsaws
Board games
Construction sets (eg. Meccano or similar)
Role play toys and Dressing up clothes
Hats, gloves and scarves

Age 10 to 12

Board games
Colouring books, coloured pencils and pens
Art and Craft sets
Lego or similar
Books
Footballs
Jigsaws
Construction sets (eg. Meccano, or similar)
Science kits
Hats, gloves and scarves
Toiletry Sets
Makeup for young teens
Hair accessories: brushes/combs/ heatless curls etc.

Age 13 to 16

Sketch books or Mindful Colouring Books
Gel pens, watercolour paints and pencils
Books for teens and young adults
Board Games
Lego Technic or similar
Toiletry and Skincare sets
Wallets/purses
Bags/ Rucksacks
Hats, gloves and scarves
Sports equipment
Bedroom lights/neon signs
Hair accessories: brushes/combs/ heatless curls etc.
Wireless Headphones/Earphones/Speakers
Gift Vouchers: One4All, Primark, Sports Direct, Boots, WHSmith, Cinemas etc.

What we don't want

Dirty, broken or incomplete toys
Toys with missing characters, animals or parts
Second hand electrical items or re-chargeable items
Religious books
Clothes
CDs and DVDs
Educational books and workbooks, reading scheme books, home schooling books
Past years annuals and record books
Food items including sweets, chocolates and biscuits
Large items like bikes, pool tables, ride ons
Soft toys
Computer Games
Guns or weapons of any kind including Nerf Guns and Water pistols, plastic swords etc

Registered Charity No. 1022144
www.readingfamilyaid.org

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