

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?"

~Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dear Toll Gate Families,

As we recognize Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 19th, we are reminded of the power of service and what that meant to Dr. King.

"*Dr. King recognized the power of service. He famously said, "Everyone can be great because everybody can serve." Observing the Martin Luther King, Jr. federal holiday through service is a way to begin each year with a commitment to making your community a better place. Your service honors Dr. King's life and teachings and helps meet community challenges. Service also brings people together of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. The MLK Day of Service encourages all types of service, particularly projects that have a lasting impact and connect participants to ongoing service. The most successful projects connect to the life and teaching of Dr. King, meet a pressing community need, and include time to reflect on his teachings."*

~From MLK Day of Service website

Toll Gate's Day of Service is on Friday, **February 20, 2026**. For this school year's Day of Service, Toll Gate will be donating to The Jared Box Project (The Jared Box Project). This will be our 5th year participating in this project.

In addition to the items listed on the signup genius Day of Service 2026 - Donations, we will also need items to fill the boxes that will be given to local hospital patients at Penn Medicine Princeton and Capital Health Hospital in the Pediatric ER and the Pediatric floor.

We also have a need for volunteers. Please use this link to help in your child's classroom during Day of Service. Day of Service 2026 - Volunteers

Our goal is 100% participation in this school-wide service learning event. Please do what you can to donate at the above link and off of the list below.

Below please find the requested donations to fill these special boxes, broken down by TG grade level assignments. Please send in to Toll Gate 3 or more new items listed below under your student(s)'s grade (approximately $5-$10 total donation per student) or whatever you are able to send. Amazon and dollar stores sell a lot of the below items. Please remember the boxes are 8"x14" keep this in mind when purchasing coloring books and other items. All items must be new and please no nail polish, chapsticks or other cosmetics.

PEECH and KG: For ages 3-5 -
Coloring books, grab–n–go activity kits, Play–Doh, reading books, stickers, sticker workbooks, activity books,small toys, stuffed animals, flashcards, fun socks, travel size games, SillyPutty, simple puzzles, card games (Go Fish,Old Maid, Memory), colorful pillowcases.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades: For ages 5-8 -
Coloring books, word searches, activity books, reading books(1st - 3rd grade level), joke books, small toy, Nerf balls, stuffed animals, stickers, Play–Doh, small Lego kits, craft kits, fidget (silly putty, pop its..), travel games (Sorry, Connect 4, etc.), colorful pillowcases, reusable water bottle, fun socks, puzzles.

4th and 5th grades: For ages 8-11 -
Pens, Doodle pads/sketchbooks/ journals,word searches,books,travel games, fidget (silly putty, pop its.), stuffed animals, puzzles, brain games, books, fuzzy/colorful socks, colorful pillowcases, jewelry making kits, small water bottles.

Please send in the donated items to school with your student(s) from now until January 23rd.

Please only send in new items and items that will fit in a 6 quart storage box similar to these boxes :
Walmart 6 quart storage box with lid
6 quart with dimensions of 14.00"L x 8.00"W x 4.88"H

Thank you for your help with this very special project.

Melissa Lauri and Day of Service Committee

Please email questions to tgdayofservice@gmail.com