



## Saint Marys Catholic Middle School & Elk County Catholic High School

### Community Outreach Project Catholic Schools Week 2024

## Catholic Schools

United in Faith and Community

During Catholic Schools Week 2024, the students and staff at Elk County Catholic High School and Saint Marys Catholic Middle School will be creating Jared Boxes for children in our community who are hospitalized. We are asking our students and staff to donate items for the boxes.

A Jared Box is a plastic shoe-sized storage box filled with small gifts, toys, games, crayons, coloring books, and fun activities. Each box contains items selected for a specific age and gender. The boxes are given to children in the hospital to provide a special, fun diversion.

The Jared Box Project was started in 2001 by the children of Our Lady of Victory School in State College, Pennsylvania, to honor their classmate and friend, Jared. He was a brave little boy who battled cancer with a courage and faith that continues to inspire us all.

Since then, more than 1,000,000 Jared Boxes have been delivered to over 500 hospitals across the United States. Boxes filled with the “gift of play” are given to young patients in emergency rooms, hospital rooms, surgical centers and clinics. Each box contains small gifts, toys, games, crayons, coloring books and fun activities. The Jared Boxes we create will be donated to Penn Highlands Healthcare

On the next page you will find a listing of items we are collecting for the ECCHS and SMCMS collection. Please take a moment and purchase some items to bring in.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR ITEMS TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY,  
JANUARY 29 AS WE KICK OFF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
WEEK.**



**Grade 6**

**Infant (0 to 12 months)**

Softcover books, cardboard books, rattles, bibs, stacking blocks, farm animal sets, clip-on toys for strollers or cribs, crib mirrors, bath toys, stuffed animals, balls, busy boxes, light-up toys, musical toys, Oball toys. Lamaze®, Bright Starts®, and Sassy® brand toys are great.

Other toys that are labeled as suggested for infants.

**Be aware of choking hazards.**



**Grade 7 & 8**

**Toddler (1 to 3)**

Softcover books, cardboard books, stacking blocks, farm animal sets, small toys that clip on strollers, bath toys, stuffed animals, balls, busy boxes, musical toys, colorful pillowcases, fun socks, chunky crayons, coloring books, flashcards, plastic cars, puppets, soft dolls.

Other toys that are labeled as suggested for children under 3.

Be aware of choking hazards.

**Grade 9 & 10**

**Preschool (3 to 5)**

Crayons, coloring books, grab-n-go activity kits, reading books, stickers, sticker workbooks, activity books, matchbox cars, NERF or rubber balls, stuffed animals, flashcards, fun socks, small action figures, small dolls, travel size games, Silly Putty, simple puzzles, card games (Go Fish, Old Maid, Memory), colorful pillowcases, dress up items, farm animal sets, dinosaurs.

Other toys that are labeled as suggested for Preschoolers.

**Grade 11**

**Elementary (5 to 8)**

Crayons, markers, colored pencils, pens, coloring books, word searches, activity books, reading books, joke books, matchbox cars, NERF balls, stuffed animals, stickers, Silly Putty, LEGO kits, craft kits, Slinky, travel games (Sorry, Connect 4), hand lotion, colorful pillowcases, reusable water bottle, fun socks, action figures, puzzles, deck of cards, UNO card game.

Other toys that are labeled as suggested for school-aged children.

**Grade 12**

**Tweens & Teens (8 and up)**

Crayons, markers, colored pencils, pens, coloring books, word searches, doodle pads, writing journals, Silly Putty, stuffed animals, card games, LEGO kits, puzzles, brain games, books, magazines, Chapstick®, hand lotion, fun socks, colorful pillowcases, jewelry making kits, craft kits, paint sets, reusable water bottle.

Other items that are labeled as suggested for teens.

**All items must be new. No food items. No tiny items due to choking hazards.**

**No snow globes or glass items that can break. No pencil sharpeners.**

**No bubbles. No holiday items.**

**Keep in mind, toys need to fit into a plastic shoe box.**