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Dear South Manor Families,

I hope this message finds you well and excited for an opportunity to inspire kindness in our school community! We are thrilled to announce a new initiative led by the South Manor PTA, called the **Blessing Box Project**. This project provides a special opportunity for our students and families to come together and give back to those in need, right here in our school community.

### **What is the Blessing Box?**

The **Blessing Box** is a community-driven effort to provide essential items to families in need. The concept is simple: each classroom will have a box where students and their families can donate toiletries and other essential items. These donations will then be distributed to families within our school community, with the help of our school's social workers.

### **How You Can Help:**

We would love for your family to be a part of this initiative! Here's how you can get involved:

#### **1. Donate Items:**

We will be collecting essential items like:

- Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Baby wipes, tissues, soap, shampoo & conditioner
- Feminine hygiene products
- Shaving cream, socks (for all ages), gloves (mittens), hats, scarves
- Bottled water and other non-perishable goods
- Please make sure all donated items are **sealed, safe, and appropriate** for others to use.

#### **2. Decorate a Blessing Box:**

Each class will receive a box to decorate, and we invite your child to get creative! This is a wonderful chance for students to add their artistic touch—whether through painting, drawing, or writing messages of kindness and encouragement. We hope the decorated boxes will bring joy to those who receive them!

3. **Bring Holiday Cards:**

Along with donations and decorations, we encourage students to sign a holiday card for the families who will receive the Blessing Boxes. It's a small gesture that can make a big difference!

**Key Dates to Remember:**

- **Collection Dates:** December 1st – December 14th
  - Please send in donations with your child during this time. A member of the PTA Executive Committee will be visiting classrooms to collect the boxes.
- **Winter Family Fest:**

Once the Blessing Boxes are filled and decorated, we will showcase them at the **Winter Family Fest**, where families can see the wonderful creativity and kindness of our students. The boxes will then be distributed to families in need within our school community.

**Why This Matters:**

The Blessing Box Project is a beautiful way for our students to learn the importance of giving back and showing kindness to others. By participating in this initiative, your child will not only help those in need, but also engage in a meaningful project that fosters teamwork, community spirit, and the joy of helping others.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about how you can contribute, please feel free to contact **Cynthia Remache** at (631) 255-7227 or **Mylene Anayas** at (386) 747-6969.

Thank you for your support in making this a heartwarming and successful project. We can't wait to see the creativity and generosity that will shine through in our students' Blessing Boxes!

Warm regards,  
Cynthia Remache  
South Manor PTA