

LFES Christmas Hampers 2019

The magic of Christmas has been truly felt by 21 families in our community this Christmas, thanks to *YOU* (LFES students, families and staff)!! Every year LFES families come together to make Christmas a special time for families in need.

A huge thanks to....

- Everyone who donated non-perishable food items and basic household needs! Boxes, bags and trunks were overflowing with items.
- Everyone who donated Christmas presents. Every member, of every family, received a Christmas present this year including toys, movie passes, rec passes and play place passes, clothing, shoes, fishing rods and sporting equipment and more!! AMAZING!
- Everyone who donated gift cards. Each family was given approximately \$50 in gift cards. We collected \$70 to Save-On Foods, \$630 to Superstore, \$115 to Willowbrook Mall, and \$180 to Walmart. (Plus a few additional cards that were added on at the end of the day on Friday).
- Cloverdale Farm Market (LFES family connection) and Ralph's Farm Market for donating large boxes of fresh produce. JD Farms (LFES alumni family business) and Superstore for donating a frozen turkey to every family. Kwantlen Polytechnic University for donating 10" poinsettias to each family. Each of these businesses gave without hesitation!
- The grade 5 students who helped sort and distribute vegetables and fruit, turkeys and flowers to each division!
- All class parents who oversaw the donation lists and encouraged giving within our classrooms, who helped organize and prepare items in classrooms for delivery and who personally took responsibility for their Christmas hamper families!
- All 20 hamper delivery volunteers! What a job – loading and unloading all the hamper items and taking time to connect with these special families in our community!

Here is what some of our hamper families have said:

- "My wife and I just wanted to thank everyone so much for their generosity. We are blown away by how much everyone helped us. Have a great Christmas, we know we will."
- As a 'hamper' mom hugs 'delivery' mom and boys..."God bless you, God bless you, God bless you!"
- A heartfelt story from one delivery family - "Grandma was very appreciative after we brought all the boxes in and filled her tiny hallway with goods. We gave her the envelope and poinsettia and she grabbed my husband and I both for big hugs. She said she lost her husband, her mom this year and then her son to an overdose. She had her 2 grandsons that she's raising and her cats. She thanked us a lot and hugged us both warmly. I wish you could have felt her hugs and appreciation. Before we left one of the boys asked what's this? She said "its Christmas." Thank you for bringing Christmas to this family. We wished her a Merry Christmas on behalf of our school and left softened. Through all the heartache they have endured there was such sincere gratitude; it was really nice to be able to show some care from our little school. And what an honour to be the deliverer!"

