

Aug 2017

Writing My Child by Tim Neet

Tanzania Journal Issue 66

"How do I write to my child? When can I write my child? What do I write my child? These are good questions that most sponsors have at some point.

HOW? The easiest "How" is simply to send an email addressed to projectchildletters@uboratz.org. We have now made it easier and faster by providing a Project Child Letterhead that you must download from our website <https://www.projectchildtz.com/journals>. Simply write your letter on the downloaded file, rename it to include your child's name & KAC number & email it to projectchildletters@uboratz.org. We will send all letters over once per month for ASAP delivery to your child.. Printed letters and photos should be delivered to Pam Willis, 5632 Tisbury, Hoschton GA 30548. (They may also be dropped off at Perimeter Church in the basket behind the Atrium receptionist.) If a team is not traveling within the quarter, we will box up the received let-

ters and mail with the USPSal Service. (It costs us about \$100 for a medium sized box, so we have to restrict these mailings to



letters, cards and photo's) Packages can be sent over with journey teams assuming they have luggage space and the items are provided in **one resealable manila envelope size 11X14 or less.**

Use the gift check list available at [projectchildtz.com/journals](https://www.projectchildtz.com/journals)

You must include your name, your child's name ,

the KAC number and a list of gift items taped securely to the outside of your envelope. This will help us through Customs.

WHEN? – We generally have journey teams going to Tanzania in March, June, July, Sept and Nov and will seek to collect packages 14 days before the published departure date via Pam Willis as noted above. We will also send a mail/letter pack before Christmas and before Easter. Specific due dates are communicated in the TZJournal within the item "Mail Call" as highlighted below. If you miss the "due date" please don't count on your letter being delivered until the next Mail Call.

WHAT? – That greatly depends upon your relationship with the child – and of course his or her

Continued on page 2



Gift Ideas

Following are example gift items depending on age) that must fit into one 11X14 resealable manila envelope.

- School supplies - pens, rulers, small calculators
- Stickers for boys/girls
- Hard candy - individually wrapped pieces are best - sanitation is not the best there for opened packages
- Deflated Soccer Balls, Frisbee's
- Books with pictures - "I Spy" books, Bible Stories, culturally appropriate (NOT Disney or skimpy-clothed characters)
- Journal - blank or lined paper with colored pencils. (Possibly include a verse or two in it for the kids... along with the sponsored child's name... makes it harder for the kids

to feel the need to "share" or to feel guilty about not sharing...or for someone to take it from them.)

- Decorative notepads
- Fine line markers (continued page2)



Writing My Child (Continued from pg1)

age. I think the overarching purpose is to communicate to the child that she is loved by God and valued by you, and that your desire is that she grow in her relationship with Christ and in serving others. Of course you need to learn about each other's family and faithfully seek to encourage. Tell them about what Christ means to you and maybe how you celebrate holidays. Try to write about things the child might be able to relate to being careful not to highlight our material blessings in your letters or photographs. Remember, you are communicating into a fairly conservative culture. It is great to include letters and drawings from your children, plus to respond to the letters that you receive from your child.

CONSIDER – We have over 500 children now in Project Child. Be patient waiting for a response to



your letter knowing that for the younger grades, each letter needs to be translated into Swahili and communicated to the child. Letters coming back are often prepared in mass on a letter writing day to make sure as many kids are covered as possible and to reduce the organizational time required of our staff

and teachers in Karansi. Sometimes these letters seem very patterned – but I have had the privilege to see and experience these letters to become very personal as the children mature and the sponsor relationship evolves. (Especially when sealed with a sponsor visit) Regardless of the difficulties in really developing a relationship with such a wide expanse of age, culture and distance, please know that your engagement in the lives of our children, even if only from a financial perspective, results in massive impact on their lives and provides them a real hope for a future.

Reminder: Include the gift list, sponsor name, child name and KAC number on the outside of the envelope using the Gift List Form found at

www.Projectchildtz.com/journals

Gift Ideas—continued from page 1

- Fancy pencils (can be purchased in sets of 10 at the dollar store) - the kids never have enough pencils
- Pencil sharpener (hand held) or two or three! Those are like GOLD!!!
- Small, draw-string backpacks
- Clothes - Girls—long skirts, tops with sleeves, fancy socks, colorful scarves for older girls
 - Boys —Sweat socks,
- T-shirts - team logos or action figure shirts. Baseball or stocking caps

Boys or Girls—short sleeve or long sleeve "Hoodie" or windbreaker style jackets. (thin jackets fit in the packages, sweatshirts do not.)

Children's Bible or devotional, science books, mathematic games, Jump Ropes, matchbox-type cars, Hacky-sacks, toothbrush and toothpaste - a toothbrush case is great

Small lotion
These are just some ideas—but whatever you send—It must fit in resealable manila envelope less than 11X14 in size.



Mail Call—
Early in October 2018 we have a medical team headed back to Karansi. That means we have the opportunity to send letters

Mail Call

and small packages. Get them to us **No Later than Sept 15** and we will get them into a suitcase to be carried over by the Team.

You can email your letter to projectchildletters@uboratz.org. Packages, photo's and gifts can be sent as long as they fit within **one resealable manila envelope 11X14 "in size"**

Printed letters and photos should be delivered to:

Pam Willis, 5632 Tisbury Court,
Hoschton, GA 30548

Or may be dropped off at Perimeter Church in the basket behind the Atrium Receptionist..