

## Student's generosity exceed expectations

THE students at Central Midlands Senior High School recently donated 46 shoeboxes full of gifts for Operation Christmas Child.

Each term the student council get together to choose what the school fundraiser will be and decided on Operation Christmas Child for Term 3.

The program involves filling shoeboxes with presents and sending them to children in need around the world.

YouthCARE chaplain Wilson Cooper said he was thrilled when a councillor suggested the idea.

"It's such a tangible way for a school to impact people in the toughest circumstances," he said.

"The Student Council almost unanimously chose it as our fundraiser.

"The determination of the students to support the project was inspirational and I went back to our leadership and got Operation Christmas Child approved."

Unsure of how successful the venture would be, Mr Cooper initially collected 25 empty shoeboxes from Perth.

"I thought our school of around 180 students would only be able to fill that many," he said.

"Two weeks later however, I was out of boxes and had to make another trip to buy 25 some more."

Apart from the 46 boxes, several big bags were filled with gifts for the children.

"Operation Christmas Child, Central Midlands Senior High School and its Student Council have inspired me with their generosity," Mr Cooper said.

"It is a privilege to work with these students on projects like this."

Year 8 students Queen Ochaco and Adeline Chapman said they were happy to support such a good cause.

"Operation Christmas Child was really good because we gave things we don't need, to people who are in need. So it's a great cause," Queen said.

"It was good seeing the school participate in giving and making gifts," Adeline said.

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### Picture:

Andy Penny, Will Butcher (Year 9), YouthCARE chaplain Wilson Cooper, Queen Ochaco and Adeline Chapman (Year 8).

### KEY INFORMATION

- There are more than 350 chaplains in about 600 schools