

February, 2010

Dear Goshen Friends Families:

I thank you. During these past two weeks, we have asked you and your children to give of yourselves in tithes, time and talent, and you have done beautifully. We have collected more than 820 shoes for Soles4Souls which have been organized and packaged (each pair requires a rubber band) by your children, and more than \$2500 has been raised for the American Friends Service Committee and the American Red Cross. Your children have done chores to raise money and have eagerly partaken in boxing the various types of shoes which you have given us. Such a response says much about our community, and as we are generous and caring, so our children will be also.

For our young children, the earthquake in Haiti is a difficult topic which you and your children must deal with in your own way, and we remain sensitive to the heartbreaking and overwhelming stories of death and misery which may not be appropriate for everyone. Yet, reaching out and caring for our neighbors are simple acts which all of your children and our students can and should be doing. As a Quaker school and as a compassionate community, we must always help our students understand that our primary purpose on this earth is to help one another.

We are grateful.

In peace,

Tom