



November /December

Newsletter

Maternity Leave

Mrs Johnston will begin her maternity leave on Friday 27th November. As a school we send our best wishes to her at this very exciting time! Miss Liggett will teach P4/5 each Thursday and Friday, beginning on Thursday 3rd December.

Shoeboxes

Thank you to all who sent in shoe boxes to school or donated online to support Samaritans Purse, Operation Christmas Child. Your support to this cause is greatly appreciated.

BBC Children in Need

As a school we raised £126.80 to support Children in Need through our non-uniform day on Friday 13th November. Thank you for your generosity.



Christmas Dinner

Christmas Dinner will be served on Friday 4th December. We will make this occasion as festive as possible for the pupils whilst maintaining our class bubbles. This will be a non-uniform day; pupils may wear a Christmas jumper, Christmas hat/hair accessory. As is the tradition in Milltown, we will be supporting Save the Children on this occasion. A small donation can be sent in with your child.

Parental Interviews

Thank you all for changing your routines to support us as we completed the parental interviews by telephone. Please remember that we are available via contacting the school office should you need to make an arrangement to speak to any of the teachers throughout the school year.

Open Day

Normally at this time of year, we would be hosting our Open Day. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to welcome prospective parents into school at this time. Could I encourage you to help spread the word about the school within the community and encourage any prospective

parents to telephone the school should they wish to know more about us.

Christmas Performance

This year our Christmas Performance will be presented online. Each class is preparing a separate performance within their bubbles for you to enjoy. More details of this will follow. As a school we do look forward to the time when you can all come in and see your children performing live. Hopefully those times will return to us soon.

Christmas Cards

As pupils exchange Christmas cards this year, I would ask you to observe the following procedure. Each class will have a separate post box and the post box will be open for one week only. All Christmas cards should be posted between Monday 30th November and Monday 7th December.



All cards should be clearly labelled with the name of the pupil and the class they are for. Cards will then be safely distributed, after quarantining, on Friday 11th December. Cards arriving into school after Monday 7th cannot be distributed.

Secret Santa

Due to restrictions on shopping - we will not be conducting Secret Santa this year.

Christmas Raffle

School will be having a Christmas Raffle with the winner receiving a hamper. Entries will cost £1 each. To enter the raffle, enclose your money in a named, sealed envelope and send it to school on Monday 7th December. All names will be entered into the draw which will take place on Friday 11th December. Please note that dinner money and raffle money should be in separate envelopes.

Christmas Holidays

School will close on Friday 18th December with staggered collections around 12 noon for Christmas holidays and reopen on Tuesday 5th January 2021. There has been speculation about changes to Christmas holidays for schools. If an announcement is made from the Department of

Education of a change, I will notify you as soon as possible.

Dinner Money

Could I remind everyone that dinner money should be sent in on a Monday each week, sealed in an envelope with the pupil's name, dinners required and amount of money enclosed.

Free School Meals

There has been an announcement of holiday payments for those families who receive Free School Meals. These payments are due to begin the week beginning 14th December and will be given fortnightly.

Could I encourage any family who may be entitled to Free School Meals to apply via the Education Authority website at www.eani.org.uk and select Free School Meals. This application has benefits for both your family and the school. If you would like any further guidance on this, please phone the school office and we will be happy to advise.

OurSchoolsApp

Please ensure you have downloaded the OurSchoolsApp so you are fully aware of all school announcements.

Procedures

Thank you for continuing to be vigilant in social distancing within the school grounds and staying alert to the possible symptoms of Covid-19. As a reminder the symptoms are:

- A new, continuous cough
- A high temperature/fever
- A loss or change of taste or smell



If your child displays any of these symptoms, please keep them at home and follow the guidance which you have already received.

If any family needs to contact the school over evenings and weekends, please use the email address hwright575@c2ken.net. Please note that only Covid-19 emergencies will be dealt with out of school hours.

I wish you all a blessed and safe Christmas.



Kind regards,
Mrs Wright
Principal