



# December



## 2017

### IMPORTANT DATES

Tue	Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>	Mr Hullabaloo P1-P4
Wed	Dec 6 <sup>th</sup>	P7 Pre sacramental meeting in school 5pm
Thur	Dec 7 <sup>th</sup>	P3 Christmas Show at 1pm
Fri	Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Teacher meetings – <u>school closed for pupils</u>
Mon	Dec 11 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Ensemble performing at Fortwilliam and Macrory 'Carols for All'
Tue	Dec 12 <sup>th</sup>	P1 Christmas Show at 1pm
Thur	Dec 14 <sup>th</sup>	Open day for prospective P1 pupils starting in Sept 2018 at 10am
Thur	Dec 14 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Disco
Wed	Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Carol Service 1.30pm in St Therese Church
Fri	Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>	School closing at 12 noon for the Christmas Holidays.
Mon	Jan 8 <sup>th</sup>	School reopens for pupils
Sat	June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	P4 First Holy Communion in St Therese of Lisieux Church at 10am

### ASSEMBLIES

P4 Mrs Quinn and Mulholland – Fri Jan 26<sup>th</sup>.

Parents and family members warmly invited to attend.  
Assemblies begin at 9.30am

### P4 ENROLMENT CEREMONY

Well done to our P4 pupils who were so prayerful and reverent, and who sang so beautifully during their recent Enrolment Ceremony. The children are very welcome to attend the Children's Liturgy at 10.30am Mass every Sunday at St Therese of Lisieux Church.

### CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

December is a really busy month with children taking part in different celebrations as we move towards Christmas. We hope to see our **P1** and **P3** parents at the **Christmas Concerts**.

The P1 and P3 children will also be singing at the Ambassador Nursing Home to entertain the residents later in the month.

Parents of children in P5 – P7 are also warmly invited to our **KS2 Carol Service** in St Therese of Lisieux Church on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm. The wonderful music and singing from the children is always a most uplifting experience and a beautiful way to prepare for a really meaningful celebration of the birth of Christ at Christmas.

*We would like to thank the McCready family who donated a lovely Christmas Hamper to be raffled among the children. Tickets are already on sale at 50p each. The draw will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> December, so still lots of time to buy a ticket!*

### EXTENDED SCHOOLS PROVISION

Clubs will finish on Thursday Dec 7<sup>th</sup>.

123 Club will continue until Thur Dec 21<sup>st</sup> and Breakfast Club will continue until Fri Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### OPEN DAY

Parents of prospective P1 children are invited to our Open Day on Thur Dec 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am to meet the staff and have a tour of the school. Application forms are now available from the school office and will also be available on the Open Day. **The closing date for applications is 12 noon on or before Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017**. Any applications received after this date and time will be considered as late. **All applications must be accompanied by proof of residence (eg recent utility bill)**.

### CHRISTMAS DINNER

Our school canteen is offering children a Christmas dinner including turkey, ham and all the trimmings, Cost is the normal price of £2.60.

Dates and times of the dinners are:

**P1 – P4** Mon Dec 18<sup>th</sup> (no dinners for P5-7 on this day)

**P5 – P7** Tue Dec 19<sup>th</sup> (no dinners for P1-4 on this day)

**Please note that the canteen is closing for Christmas on Wed Dec 20<sup>th</sup> so all children need to bring a packed lunch on Thur Dec 21<sup>st</sup>.**

### St VINCENT DE PAUL

St Vincent de Paul can help any family in need over Christmas and throughout the year by supplying food vouchers, household goods, money for heating your home and can also help provide toys for Christmas. If you would benefit from this support, then please ring 90351561.

### MORNING SUPERVISION

The playground is supervised from 8.45 am each morning. Only children at the breakfast club should be in school before this time.



## WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES COMPETITION

Congratulations to Olivia Watkiss, Niamh McKearney, Ruairi Day and Dylan Quinn who were winners in the Holy Family Parish Art competition and to Rachel O' Neill who was a winner in the Poetry Competition.

## PHOTOGRAPHER

The photographer will take individual and family photos on Mon Dec 4<sup>th</sup>. Permission slips were sent home last week.

## PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Parent Teacher meetings will take place on Friday Dec 8<sup>th</sup>. The school is closed for pupils that day. If you cannot attend please let the teacher know as soon as possible so that you can be offered an alternative appointment.

## PTA

The Christmas Disco will be on Thur Dec 14<sup>th</sup>.

P1-P3	5.50-6.30pm
P4-P7	6.45-8pm

Santa is going to try very hard to make the time to meet the boys and girls of St Therese at the disco, so make sure to put the date in your calendar. There will be games, a BBQ and a tuck shop.

The PTA welcome help from parents/ grandparents to prepare for the disco and to help supervise on the night!

**A big thank you to the PTA for buying us a new stage in June. The P1 and P3 teachers who are preparing for the Christmas Shows are delighted with it. The PTA have also given us money to buy 12 new Ipads. We hope to have them in the next few weeks. You can stay up-to-date with the PTA on their facebook page- St Therese of Lisieux Primary School PTA.**

## CYCLE TO SANTA

We are encouraging our children to stay active this winter with our Cycle to Santa Challenge.

How does it work?

- Each day your child cycles, scoots or walks to school, the closer they get to Santa and our amazing surprise.
- The challenge will begin Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December and finishes Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December.
- Each morning your child's teacher will count the number of children in their class who walk, cycle or scoot to school. This number will be displayed on their doors where our P7 Cycle Monitors will collect these numbers.
- The year group with the biggest amount of children walking, cycling or scooting over the two weeks will get a special surprise on our last day of school.

And remember...

- Always wear a helmet and bright clothing.
- Please use bike lights on the dark mornings.
- Use a bike lock so that the bike or scooter can be secure within the school.

**Good Luck & Happy Cycling!!**

## ORCHESTRA

Coming up to Christmas the school orchestra has been invited to perform at various events. The Senior Ensemble will perform at Fortwilliam and Macrory Carols For All Interdenominational Service on Dec 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm and will also be playing at local residential homes later this month. It is clear that they are all very committed and talented musicians.

## P7 PRE-SACRAMENTAL MEETING

A meeting has been scheduled for our P7 children and their parents for Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm in the school hall. At the meeting, children will have the opportunity of meeting their Faith Friends and parents will learn about preparations for Confirmation later in the school year.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL APPEAL

Our local SVP conference have asked the children to bring in some items of food to donate to the Christmas Hamper Appeal. A flyer outlining suitable items has already been distributed to parents. Please make sure items are non-perishable and have a good *use-by* date. **Please bring in items by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December so that they can be distributed before Christmas.** Many thanks for your support of this really worthy appeal.

## SHOESHARE

As part of our Rights Respecting Schools Award journey, we will be hosting a **ShoeShare** collection in partnership with Unicef and Clarks during **18-23<sup>rd</sup> December**. In taking part in this collection we will be helping children across the world accessing their '**Right to Education (Article 28)**'. We would ask you to gather your old and unwanted shoes from around the house, and bring them into school during the week of the **18<sup>th</sup> December**. We will then deliver all of the shoes we have collected to our nearest Clarks store. The more shoes you bring in, the more money we can raise to help children around the world to access education. A few things to remember:

- ***Please make sure that the shoes are in relatively good condition, so no holes or broken soles!***
- ***Please pair your shoes with a rubber band to make it easier to sort and pack shoes.***

## DAVY WILSON CUP

The school football team took on Orangefield PS in the first round of the Davy Wilson Cup at the Waterworks. In a tough match played in miserable, wet conditions, the boys managed to come from behind to secure a 2-1 victory and advance to the next round of the cup. Their opponents in the next round will be a local derby against Cavehill PS. Well done to all of the boys!

## FREE MICROSOFT OFFICE

C2k (who provide IT and internet services to schools) have a licence agreement with MICROSOFT that all school users (including pupils) can download, free of charge, full copies of MS Office for PC or Mac for use on up to 5 devices. A helpsheet explaining how to do this is available from reception.

## CHRISTMAS BALLOT FUNDRAISING

To raise much needed money for next year's school supplies we are having a Christmas Ballot with some great prizes donated by the staff and some local businesses. Do you own a business or work for someone who would be able to offer a prize? We would love to hear from you as soon as possible! Please look out for the ballot sheets which will be sent home next week.