



# December



2018



## IMPORTANT DATES

Tue	Dec 4 <sup>th</sup>	Mr Hullabaloo P1-P3
Tue	Dec 4 <sup>th</sup>	P7 Pre Sacramental Meeting in school 5pm
Thur	Dec 6 <sup>th</sup>	P3 Christmas Concert 1pm
Wed	Dec 12 <sup>th</sup>	P1 Christmas Concert 1pm
Thur	Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>	Open day for prospective P1 pupils starting in Sept 2019 -10am
Thur	Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Christmas Disco
Wed	Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Carol Service 1.30pm in St Therese of Lisieux Church
Fri	Dec 21 <sup>st</sup>	School closing at noon for the Christmas holidays
Mon	Jan 7 <sup>th</sup>	School reopening for Term 2
Thur	Jan 17 <sup>th</sup>	PTA AGM at 7pm
Mon –Fri	Feb 18 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mid-term break ( <u>School Closed</u> )
Mon	March 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sacrament of Confirmation, Holy Family Church, 11am ( <u>School Closed</u> )
Thur	March 14 <sup>th</sup>	St Patrick's Day Concert
Mon	March 18 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday-school closed
Sat	May 11 <sup>th</sup>	P4 First Holy Communion in St Therese of Lisieux Church at 10am

## ASSEMBLIES

P5 Miss McMullan-Fri. Jan 25<sup>th</sup> at 9.30am

P4 Miss McClenaghan-Fri Feb 1<sup>st</sup> at 9.30am

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**.

Parents of children in P5 – P7 are also warmly invited to our **KS2 Carol Service** in St Therese of Lisieux Church on **Wednesday 19<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.

The Senior Ensemble will perform at local Nursing Homes to entertain the residents during December.

*We would like to thank the McCready family who donated a lovely Christmas Hamper to be raffled among the children. The school Council will be selling tickets at 50p each. The draw will take place on 20<sup>th</sup> December, so still lots of time to buy a ticket!*

## OPEN DAY

Parents of prospective P1 children are invited to our Open Day on Thur Dec 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am to meet the staff and have a tour of the school. Applications for P1 must be made online from Wed Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>, on the Education Authority website. The closing date for applications is **12.00 midnight on Thurs Jan 31<sup>st</sup> 2019**. Any applications made after this will be considered as late. **Your must bring your child's birth cert to the school along with proof of residence (eg recent utility bill)**. More information is available at <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>

## RAINY AND ICY MORNINGS

Please note that the children can come straight into school on rainy/icy mornings at 8.45am and their teachers will be waiting for them in their classrooms. **If the playground is icy, a path from the gate at the ramp will be cleared and marked with cones. Children in the Lisieux Building (P3s and P7JMcF) will enter through the main school first, via the door at the P2 corridor. The new gate near Ms Dorman's classroom will be locked during icy conditions and everyone coming in the front gates will use the main reception door to come into school. Please use the footpaths which will have been cleared.** If the school has to close because of the weather, you will receive a text message as soon as the decision is made. We will also send out a tweet with this information and notify the BBC. However, we do aim to keep the school open if at all possible.

## AVIVA COMMUNITY GRANT

Thanks to everyone who has voted for our application for the £5000 Aviva grant. We did very well and are through to the final stage, where the Aviva judges make the final decisions on winners.

## CHRISTMAS BALLOT FUNDRAISING

To raise much needed money for next year's school supplies we are having a Christmas Ballot with some fantastic prizes donated by the staff and some local businesses. Our thanks go to Radisson Blu Hotel, local artist Natasha Barr, Stanleys Family Butcher, Cavehill Road Spar, Belfast Castle, Balmoral Pharmacy, Pizzaworks, Cassidy's Bar, The Fort, Murphy Browns, Carlin Hair, Luxe at Carlin, Madigans Court, Reids Florist, Fortwilliam Greengrocers, The Movie House Cinema and Bluebell Bakery. 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! Ballot sheets will be sent home this week.

## 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 14<sup>th</sup> December so that they can be distributed before Christmas.** Many thanks for your support of this really worthy appeal.

If your family is in need this Christmas, please contact the local SVP in complete confidence. 90351561.

## GAELIC NEWS

The Boys' Gaelic Team had their first blitz of the year in Lamh Derg. They played Christ the Redeemer P.S. and St Joseph's P.S. in two very close matches. Unfortunately, the boys lost out by only a couple of points in each game despite putting on a very impressive display of skill and teamwork.

## HURLING

Eight boys from P4, P5 and P6 attended a Hurling Development Blitz at Lamh Dhearg 3G pitch on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov. They played Ballymacward PS, Bunscoil Bheann Mhadagaín and Bunscoil Mhic Reactain. The boys displayed great team work and skill on the day with some excellent goals and points scored.



## ECO TEAM

Our newly appointed Eco Team are working hard to ensure we are doing all we can to look after our planet. They held a wonderful assembly to explain their role to the staff and children. They are a very responsible team and carry out their weekly duties very conscientiously. The ECO leaders would like to say a big thank you for all the kind donations for the cooking apples from our school garden. They raised £31.81 and are using the money to buy their ECO badges.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

After-School Clubs will finish on Wed 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2018 and will restart on Monday the 21<sup>st</sup> of January 2019. Details of clubs available will be sent out when the children return to school in the new year.

## CONFIRMATION

Confirmation of P7 pupils will be held this year on **Monday March 4<sup>th</sup> at 11am** in Holy Family Church. **The school will be closed for pupils.**

## MARVELLOUS CHILDREN

The indomitable Daire Downey has been invited to represent the Roald Dahl Marvellous Medicine Charity at Clarence House in December where he will help decorate Prince Charles' Christmas tree. He will be staying at the Dorchester Hotel. The charity funds Roald Dahl Specialist Children's Nurses across the UK. They provide expert care and support to children with serious illnesses, and their families.

## ATHLETIC SUCCESS

Congratulations to Dara Cassidy who runs with the North Belfast Harriers. Dara has had a very successful season and qualified to represent Antrim at the All Ireland National Cross Country U12 Championship in Abbotstown. Well done Dara!

## BORN 2 MOVE

Our Born 2 Move track has been finished and we also got some additional motivating playground markings. Huge thanks to the PTA for all their work in making this happen. As you know Belfast City Airport gave us a grant to help with the cost of the track and they are taking some footage of it next week. Mr McFerran's class who piloted the 'Born 2 Move' initiative when they were in P5 are taking part in this filming, so look out for them in the local media.

## BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

Ms Dorman's P1 class were lucky enough to have been invited to the BBC to meet Pudsey Bear and take part in face painting, balloon modelling, art and crafts. They had a great time and some of them were interviewed and appeared on the evening news! They also did a sponsored walk on our Born 2 Move track and raised £100 for Children in Need. Well done P1!

## PARENT GOVERNOR

Mrs Oonagh O Gorman has been elected as Parent Governor.

## 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 at reception.

## P4-7 CINEMA TRIP

As a Christmas treat, P4-7 are going to the cinema to see 'Ralph Breaks the Internet' on Thur Dec 20<sup>th</sup>.

## TWITTER

Follow us on Twitter to hear the latest news and see some of the children's activities - <https://twitter.com/TheresePS>. Send a request to follow us and let Mr Reynolds know so that he can accept you.