

Principal's Update 17.11.22



Dear Parents,

Another very busy and purposeful week, as we embark on our preparations for Christmas events within our school community. Please do keep a close eye on future correspondence regarding your support for costumes and accessories your child(ren) may require for our Christmas performances, scheduled before the end of this term.

Important dates for your calendar:



We are hosting an **Open Evening for all prospective P1 pupils** and for those in our community who wish to visit our school. This event will be held on **Monday 5.12.22 from 5.00-7.00p.m.** If you wish to be in attendance as a prospective P1 parent, please telephone our school office on 02838318261 to confirm you will be in attendance.



We are holding our Annual Christmas Plays in person this year, which we are extremely excited about. We are facilitating two performances on **Tuesday 13.12.22**.

The morning performance will commence at **10.00a.m.** and the evening performance will commence at **6.30p.m.**

P1-3 pupils are performing 'Whoops – a -Daisy Angel'

P4-7 pupils are performing 'Tinsel and TeaTowels'

We will be providing the opportunity for you to purchase tickets for this event, allocating 3 tickets approximately per family. **Tickets will be available to purchase via parentpay with a closing date of 9.12.22. £3 per adult and £1.50 per child.** If additional places are available after 9.12.22 we will inform you and provide a further opportunity for you to purchase additional tickets, if required.

Non-uniform day!

Our next **Non-Uniform day** will be held on **Monday 28.11.22**. All proceeds from this day will be shared with our chosen charity and school funds to enhance our play resources for pupils. Please support us on this day. **Payment of £2 can made via Parentpay.**



On **Friday 25.11.22** we will be issuing pupils Literacy and Numeracy books for you to review with your child at home. We invite feedback from you on the attached proforma which you will receive and we would kindly ask that you please ensure the books are returned to school with your child on **Monday 28.11.22**



Our P5/6 Parent Teacher meetings are scheduled to take place with Mr O'Hagan from the week beginning 23.1.23. We will issue dates of these meetings after the Christmas holidays.



As part of our ongoing initiative with Shared Education and our close links with Poyntzpass P.S. we are delighted to be able to host our 'Art Project'. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to view your child's art work, which will be on display from **Tuesday 29th November and Wednesday 30th November in Poyntzpass Community Hall from 2.00-5.00p.m.** Please do come along and view the work on display over some light refreshments. If you can let us know that you wish to purchase your child's finished art piece by noon on Thursday 1.12.22, making payment of **£5 via parentpay**. All proceeds will be donated to Southern Area Hospice.



We would like to remind you that Anto Bee Active is continuing on Wednesday for an additional 4 weeks, beginning next week. Football will also be available for a further three weeks. If you wish your child to attend, please pay via parentpay.

After School Minding – we will provide after school minding for parents from 2.00–5.00p.m. Monday to Thursday for the month of December, if numbers prove this is a viable option for us to facilitate. Please express your interest by contacting Mrs Morrow our school secretary on lmorrow846@c2kni.net or telephone the school office on 02838318261. We do require sufficient notice to be given in advance to arrange staffing on these days.



We will be facilitating our 'In house' Banbridge Festival on Friday 25.11.22. This competition is scheduled to take place from 9.a.m. up to lunch time (12 noon). Parents of pupils are welcome to attend and support your child for their performance.

We have had a very busy week with our focus on 'Antibullying'. All pupils have had the opportunity to explore this issue and we ultimately come back to the same principle about being kind to ourselves and to one another.



We hope you also enjoyed our Facebook posts updating you on our 'Walk to School Week' campaign as part of Road Safety week. Can we commend all our pupils and staff who supported such a wonderful initiative. Well done to all involved.

Wishing everyone in our school community a peaceful weekend ahead.

Yours in continued partnership

C. Wadsworth and staff of St. Joseph and St. James's P.S.