

Please read me!

DUNDELA INFANTS' SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2018



Dear Parents

As we approach December I would like to draw your attention to the arrangements up to the end of term. Please take time to read the details, as there are some changes to the usual routine. There is also important information regarding applications for Nursery & P1 for September 2019.

*****IMPORTANT DATES FOR AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS*****

The last days for After Schools Clubs for this term are as follows:

- P3 Homework Club Mon 3 & Tues 4 December
- P2 Maths Attack Thurs 13 December
- P3 Wednesday Clubs Wed 12 December

Clubs will recommence as follows:

- P3 Homework Club Mon 7 & Tues 8 January
- P3 Wednesday Clubs Wed 9 January
- P2 Maths Attack Thurs 10 January



SCHOOL COUNCIL

Congratulations to the following P3 children who have been elected by their classes to be members of the new School Council: Arlo Neely; Amelia Carson; A'isha Hamid; Freya McIlvenny-Montgomery; Eva Baine and Owen Hargreaves. Miss Davidson will be meeting with the children to discuss their role in the development of the School Council. We will keep you updated with their thoughts and plans to develop Dundela.

ATTENDANCE

The Education Welfare Officer was in school during November to review attendance. She particularly reviews the attendance of children whose attendance is less than 85%. Please remember that a note must be sent to school following any period of absence.

SCHOOL DINNERS

The hall is full to capacity with children taking school dinners and therefore no additional children are able to be accommodated for occasional dinners. Only those children who have been taking dinners on a regular basis will be able to have dinners during December.

PTA EVENTS

Winter Market

Thank you to all those who supported our Winter Market. There was a great selection of stalls selling a wide variety of items. Thanks are expressed to all the parents and staff who made preparations for the event and assisted on the evening. Many people commented on the welcoming atmosphere within the school and it was great that members of the local community joined with us. A total of £474 was raised on the evening.

Christmas Ballot

We will not be having a Christmas Ballot this year but will have a Ballot later in the school year.

CAR PARKING

Please remember to exercise care both when driving near the school and when parking. A parked car belonging to a parent was hit by another parent's car in Wilgar Street recently and it was disappointing and very annoying that the driver did not stop. Cars continue to park on the yellow lines at the main entrance which is a safety issue for those walking near the gates. Please also remember that only cars belonging to members of staff are permitted in the car park.

****P1 & P2 CHRISTMAS CONCERT/P3 CHRISTMAS NATIVITY****

Please see details on the attached letter regarding arrangements for these events.

In previous years it was disappointing that a number of parents, who did not purchase tickets on time, were abusive to office staff. The number of seats in the school hall is limited due to fire & health and safety regulations. Tickets are therefore limited to 2 per family for the P1 & P2 concert and 4 per family for the P3 Nativity. Tickets will sell quickly. **It is important that you follow the instructions for ordering tickets and return the reply slip and money to the class teacher. Tickets will not be sold directly from the office.** It is hoped that all parents will co-operate with these arrangements.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

As mentioned in the previous newsletter school staff would be very happy if parents once again, instead of buying presents for members of staff, gave a donation to the Cancer Fund for Children Appeal. Envelopes will be sent home during December.

CHRISTMAS FUN MORNING

Arrangements are in hand for the Christmas Fun Morning, which will be held on Friday 21 December. It will be a Christmas Jumper Day and break will be provided for all children. **School will finish at 12.15pm and there will be no dinners or packed lunches.** Further details will be sent home shortly.

NURSERY AND PRIMARY 1 ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

The Education Authority has changed the process for applications to Nursery and Primary 1 for September 2019 intake. The information we have to date is as follows:

- Applications for both Nursery and Primary 1 will be through an online portal
- Information about the criteria of all schools, nursery units and playgroups will be available on the Education Authority website from Friday 14 December 2018
- The online portal will be available from **10.00am on Wednesday 2 January until midnight on Thursday 31 January 2019** for punctual applications. Any applications submitted after this date will be treated as late applications.
- As in previous years parents will nominate schools/settings in order of preference
- Parents will be required to provide to their first preference school/setting an original birth certificates, 2 proofs of home address and, if applicable for Nursery, evidence of entitlement for the social disadvantage criterion. This documentation should be submitted as soon as possible after completing the application and not later than 4.00pm on Friday 8 February 2019. Failure to supply evidence by this date may result in a place not being offered
- Only information that has been provided on the online application and any documents submitted to the school will be used to determine the allocation of places

The Education Authority Admissions Office is providing further information and training for Principals and school administration staff at the end of November. I will provide parents with updated information as soon as it is available.

We will be holding a Nursery and Primary 1 Open Afternoon/Evening on Tuesday 15 January 2019 from 3.00-4.00pm and 6.30-7.30pm. If you have friends/neighbours who will be applying for Nursery or Primary 1 places, please share this information with them.

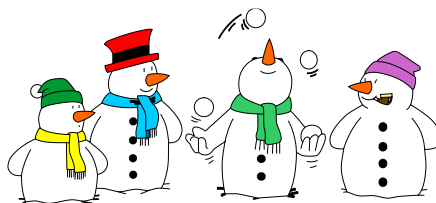
PRIMARY 3 TRANSFER TO STRANDTOWN

Application forms for current P3s will be available from the start of January and will be sent home when we receive them from Strandtown. Completed applications should be returned to **STRANDTOWN PRIMARY by THURSDAY 31 JANUARY AT 4pm**. Mrs Hutchinson will be providing further information in due course.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Please remember that School will finish for all children on **Friday 21 December at 12.15pm**. There will be no dinners or packed lunches. School will recommence on Friday 4 January 2019.

S H MACKEY
Principal



DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 3 / Tues 4 December	Last day P3 Homework Club for Term 1
Thursday 13 December	Last day P2 Maths Attack Club for Term 1
Wednesday 12 December	Last day P3 Clubs for Term 1
Tuesday 11 December	P1 & P2 Christmas Concert 1.30pm
Wednesday 12 December	P1 & P2 Christmas Concert 9.15am
Monday 17 December	Dinner Money – 4 days £10.40
Tuesday 18 December	P3 Nativity 1.30pm
Wednesday 19 December	P3 Nativity 9.15am
Thursday 20 December	Last day Nursery Waiting Class
Friday 21 December	Fun Morning – Christmas Jumper Day School finishes 12.15pm NO PACKED LUNCHES OR SCHOOL DINNERS
Friday 4 January 2019	Term 2 begins
Tuesday 15 January 2019	Nursery & P1 Open Day 3.00-4.00pm & 6.30-7.30pm
Thursday 31 January 2019	Closing Date for P1 & Nursery Applications Midnight Closing Date for Strandtown P4 Applications 4.00pm



****See overleaf for details of
P1&2 Concert & P3 Nativity**

P1 & P2 CHRISTMAS CONCERT

This will be held in the school hall on **Tuesday 11 December at 1.30pm and Wednesday 12 December at 9.15am** for parents of P1 & P2 children. Space is limited so it is only possible for each family to have 2 tickets. We are asking for a donation of £2 per ticket, which will be donated to the East Belfast Mission – Neighbours in Need Appeal.

Tickets should be requested not later than Wednesday 5 December. You are asked to note that **babies or young children should not be brought to the concert.**

S H MACKEY
Principal

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DUNDELA INFANTS' SCHOOL
P1 & P2 CHRISTMAS CONCERT

CHILD'S NAME: CLASS:

Please send the number of tickets as indicated (**maximum of 2 in total**):

TUES 11 DEC 1.30pm

☐ TICKET(S)

OR

WED 12 DEC 9.15am

☐ TICKET(S)

Suggested donation £2 per ticket.

I enclose a donation of £.....

SIGNED.....Parent/Guardian

P3 CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

This will be held in the school hall on **Tuesday 18 December at 1.30pm and Wednesday 19 December at 9.15am** for parents of Primary 3 children. It is possible for each family to have a maximum 4 tickets so that additional family members may be invited. We are asking for a donation of £2 per ticket, which will be donated to the East Belfast Mission – Neighbours in Need Appeal.

Tickets should be requested not later than Wednesday 12 December. You are asked to note that **babies or young children should not be brought to the nativity.**

S H MACKEY
Principal

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DUNDELA INFANTS' SCHOOL
P3 CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

CHILD'S NAME: CLASS:

Please send the number of tickets as indicated (maximum of 4 in total):

TUES 18 DEC 1.30pm
OR

☐ TICKET(S)

WED 19 DEC 9.15am

☐ TICKET(S)

Suggested donation £2 per ticket.

I enclose a donation of £.....

SIGNED.....Parent/Guardian