

Bushmills Primary
School
&
Nursery Unit



December 2018
Newsletter

It's Christmas

"Congratulations" and "Thank-You" to all who worked so hard to make "Cinderella & Rockerfella" the success that it was. Our dress rehearsal was held on Tuesday 11th December when the audience for the morning was pupils from our Nursery Unit along with Year 8 pupils from Dunluce School! Feedback (after all performances) was again very positive and already preparations are underway as we plan for another exciting production which we aim to put on in the spring.

Once again the hard work paid off, whether it was remembering the words of the songs or scripts, organising the costumes, painting scenery, making props, I am delighted to report that **everyone** at Bushmills Primary rose to the challenge, so Well Done!



Headlice

Again I remind all parents/guardians that it is your responsibility to regularly check your child's hair. Treatment can be obtained for free from your local chemist.

Contact Details



If you have changed your address, mobile number or any other contact information please inform the school as soon as possible, to keep records up to date. This is important for all pupils, Nursery to Primary 7.

P.T.A. Update



A massive thanks to our P.T.A. committee members who have once again worked extremely hard throughout the first term. Whether it was organising the tea/Coffee at the “Cinderella & Rockerfella!” performances, organising the Halloween Disco, organising the Christmas Movie night to name but a few, it really has been greatly appreciated! Please be assured your hard work and dedication never goes unnoticed. Once again - Thanks!

Taster Day!

On Wednesday 5th December our Primary 6 and 7 pupils travelled to Ballymoney High School as part of their ‘Taster Days’ for prospective pupils. A great time was had by all which gave pupils an insight into what life would be like at Ballymoney High.



Oliver!

On Thursday 6th December pupils in Primary 4 to Primary 7 were invited to Dunluce School for their Christmas production ‘Oliver!’ Everyone had an enjoyable time and once again it was great to see a few familiar faces displaying their many talents!



Choir Outings



Well Done to our school choir (along with some instrumentalists) who along with Miss Logan and Mrs Witherow have been attending a number of events outside school and within our local community.

On Friday 7th December they were invited to perform at the community Christmas Tree Festival in Portstewart Methodist

Church Hall and last Saturday (15th December) they took part at the 'Gift of Giving Day' event which was held in the 'Designerie' here in Bushmills. The pupils performed exceptionally well at both events and 'Thanks' also to those parents who were able to come along and support them!

Santa at Dunluce!

Primary 1 to Primary 3 pupils enjoyed a great day on Tuesday 18th December when they were given the opportunity to spend the morning with Santa at Dunluce Guide House outside Bushmills. Pupils had the opportunity to make a Christmas craft as well as enjoy a delicious snack before receiving a special gift from Santa!



Nursery - 'Away in a Manger!'

This morning, Thursday 20th December, pupils from our Nursery Unit performed their version of "Away in a Manger". A packed hall enjoyed the performance which even included a surprise visit from Santa! Many thanks to Mrs Garrett and Mrs Laverty and all our Nursery pupils who have worked so hard over the past days and weeks to make this event the huge success that it was. Also thanks to Ellie and Holly who have been helping out in Nursery during the past number of weeks!



R.N.L.I. Charity Update



Lifeboats

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will recommence again on Tuesday 8th January 2019. I would be delighted to see the numbers continue to increase over the next term.



Swimming Lessons



The final block of swimming lessons (for Primary 4 and Primary 5 pupils) will recommence on Friday 11th January 2019 and will continue until Friday 8th February 2019.

Extended Schools Reminders

- Please be reminded that Extended Schools Activities will recommence on Monday 7th January 2019
- Shared Reading Programme for pupils in Primary 1 and Primary 2 will recommence on Tuesday 8th January. The final session (for pupils only) will be held on Tuesday 22nd January 2019
- A further block of 'Sports' sessions for Primary 1, 2 and 3 pupils, will be held on the following Tuesdays between 2:00pm and 3:00pm:
 - 29th January
 - 5th February
 - 12th February
 - 26th February
 - 5th March
 - 12th March



Admissions to Nursery & Primary School

If your child is starting pre-school or primary school in September 2019, you can apply for their place online from Wednesday 2 January 2019 at 10.00am.



The closing date and time for pre-school and primary one applications will be 12.00 midnight on Thursday 31 January 2019.

Pre-school places are available for children who are in the target age group, i.e. who were born on or between 2nd July 2015 and 1st July 2016.

All children born on or between 2nd July 2014 and 1st July 2015 must begin their primary education from September 2019 because by that date they will have reached **COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE**.

For further information regarding the application process please visit the Education Authority's website at www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions.

Friday 21st December 2018 - Reminder!

Please be reminded that our term will end this Friday with our Christmas Carol Service being held at 10:30m in Bushmills Presbyterian Church.

Please note the following:

1. Pupils should arrive in school at 9:00am sharp (as usual) dressed in full school uniform
2. No school bags are required on Friday
3. Pupils must provide their **own** snack for Friday morning and will be given time here in school to eat it before making their way to the church (bus transport will be provided)
4. School will finish for **all** pupils following the Carol Service
5. If unable to attend, please ensure your child/children is/are collected from the **church** no later than 11:45am



Mac Theatre Visit

As you are already aware on Friday 4th January 2019, all pupils in Primary 1 to Primary 7 will be travelling to The MAC Theatre in Belfast to see their production of 'The Elves and the Shoemaker'. Following our own successful production, we are looking forward to this visit.

On the day we will leave at 9:00am sharp so please ensure your child/children are in school on time.

The arrangements for Friday 4th January 2019 are as follows:

- Full school uniform **must** be worn
- Please note that all pupils will received a **free snack** which will be provided by our own kitchen staff and given out when we arrive in Belfast
- All pupils will need to bring a packed lunch (no fizzy drinks, yoghurts or milk please) and they will be given the opportunity to eat this after the show
- We will leave school at 9:00am sharp to travel to Belfast for the performance which begins at 10:30am
- We will return at approximately 2:45pm / 3:00pm



Peace Proms - February 2019

As you may already be aware the date for this Peace Proms concert is fast approaching and preparations will be well underway once we return after the Christmas break!



For those parents who have children in Primary 4 to 7 who have signed up for this event, please be reminded it will take place on Sunday 24th February 2019 at the SSE Arena in Belfast.

I have been asked to inform parents who may wish to go and see the performance in Belfast that tickets can be purchased directly

November Assemblies

Again we continue to welcome visitors to our school assemblies which are held every Wednesday morning. During the month of December, we have the following visitors:

Wednesday
5th December

Rev Dr N Cubitt
(Bushmills Presbyterian)



assembly

Attendance

The Attendance Cup for December will be presented at a whole school assembly on Wednesday 9th January 2019. The school's overall average attendance for the month of November was_____. Results are as follows:

1st:

2nd:

3rd:

4th:

5th:



Well Done class!

Star of the Week

Each week one pupil from each class will be rewarded for their achievements. During the month of December, Star of the Week was not presented to any pupils as the whole school has been very busy with rehearsals for the Christmas production and our Annual Carol Service and I am sure you will agree that all our pupils have been stars!



Diary Dates

Term 2		
Start of Term	03-Jan-19	9:00am sharp
Mac Theatre - Belfast (P1-P7)	04-Jan-19	Further details to follow
Half Term	15-Feb-19 to 19-Feb-19	Inclusive
Peace Proms	24-Feb-19	
Parent/Teacher Interviews	15-Apr-19 & 16-Apr-19	2:00pm - 4:00pm
End of Term (Easter)	17-Apr-19	12:00 Noon
Easter Vacation	18-Apr-19 to 26-Apr-19	Inclusive

Many Thanks to everyone who has attended our Christmas Carol Service.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous and Peaceful New Year.

From:
The Principal,
Staff and Pupils
of Bushmills
Primary School
2018.

