



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Firstly, I would like to thank all those parents who were able to join us for our walk to school on Friday 2nd December as part of our Ditch the Dark day events. We had a great turnout, the children enjoyed walking, cycling, scooting, skating to school and their warm breakfast when they arrived in class. Thanks also to all the Primary 3 family members who attended our Primary 3 Remembrance Assembly on Tuesday 29th November which was a beautiful assembly. Congratulations to the Primary 3 children. They were brilliant! Thanks also to all parents who joined us for our P1-P3 Mathseeds Online Information Evening which was very worthwhile. I must acknowledge the excellent work of all staff for facilitating these events and preparing the children for them. Their dedication and commitment to our school is greatly appreciated. Please scan the QR code to access our school website and view the photo galleries for these events and much more. Thanks.



I would like to remind you of our December events and Christmas arrangements.

IMPORTANT DATES:

SCHOOL PANTOMIME TRIPS: Reception/Primary 1, 2, 3 & 4 - Monday 5th December, Armagh Market Place to see 'Cinderella'. Children will return to school for second lunch.

Primary 5, 6 & 7 - Thursday 15th December, Grand Opera House Belfast to see 'Cinderella'. Children will receive their dinner before travelling to Belfast for the Pantomime and will return to school @4.30pm.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: There will be a **Special Mass** celebrated by Bishop Router in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Tullysaran **@10am on Thursday 8th December**. P1-P7 children will attend. Refreshments will be served in the Community Centre after the Mass.

OPEN EVENING FOR NEW PUPILS IN 2023/24: On **Thursday 8th December @7-8pm** we will host our Open Evening for parents and children due to commence either Reception or Primary One in September 2023. Please spread the word among new families in the area who may consider Our Lady's as a suitable school for their child(ren). Open Night is aimed primarily at parents of children who would like to enrol their

child(ren) in our Reception or P1 class in September 2023. However, everyone is most welcome to attend, especially those who have never visited our school before.

CHRISTMAS DINNER: Christmas dinner is scheduled for **Tuesday 13th December**. The school will provide a **FREE Christmas dinner** for all children who wish to take a dinner this year. Children are invited to come to school in their own clothes wearing a Christmas jumper, hat or festive clothing. **All children will go home at 1 pm to facilitate our staff Christmas lunch. There will be no buses operating at home time (1pm).** Thank you for your anticipated co-operation with these arrangements.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES: **Primary 1 & 2** Christmas Performances are scheduled to take place on **Wednesday 14th December @ 1.30pm**. There will be a raffle at the Christmas Performances with all donations going in support of 'Frankie' and 'Make a Wish' Foundation. Each family will receive ten lines at £1 per line. All lines should be returned to school by Tuesday 13th December to be included in our Christmas raffle.

Thank you to everyone who has already donated prizes for our Christmas raffle. Further donation of raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated. Thanks.

CHESTNUT NURSING HOME: Primary 6/7 children will sing Christmas songs for the residents of the Chestnut Nursing Home @11am on Monday 19th December.

CHRISTMAS SONGS: P3 – P7 classes will each record a Christmas song on our Christmas dinner day and post the songs on our school website from Monday 19th – Wednesday 21st December.

CHRISTMAS MASS: On **Tuesday 20th December P1-P7** children will attend a Christmas Mass in the Immaculate Conception Church, Tullysaran @10am.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS: School closed on **Thursday 22nd December @ 12 noon (no dinners or buses available)**. Children will return to school on **Friday 6th January 2023**.

Staff have once again requested that parents/guardians should not purchase gifts for them this Christmas. We would stress this without reservation. Staff have always appreciated the kindness shown to them over the years however we feel, parents/guardians have enough expenses throughout the year, and we are grateful for all the support you give to the school.

Please contact the school if you have any queries or concerns. All the events will be on our school website calendar and a text message will be sent out if there are any changes to our plans. Thank you for your continued support.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all staff and board of governors, to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Take care and all the best

Tomás McKee

Mr Tomás McKee

Principal

