

OUR LADY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Our Lady's P.S.



JANUARY/FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

Welcome to the start of a new year and a new academic term. I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all staff, to wish you and your family best wishes for 2018.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Our Primary 1, 2, 3 & 4 pupils (pictured below) performed amazingly at the Christmas shows on Wednesday 13th December. Congratulations to all the children and well done to all the staff who prepared the children or assisted with the performances and raffles. We would like to thank all parents/guardians for bringing in hamper donations and prizes. We would also like to thank all the local businesses who supported the raffles. We received vouchers from; Campbell Fuels, PV Macari Interiors and Uluru. Thanks also to everyone who attended the shows, purchased raffle tickets and to the Community Centre committee for facilitating the shows and rehearsals. In total a magnificent £1800 was raised for our school funds.

A DVD of our Christmas show will be available for sale from the school office next week at the cost of £6.00.



I would like to draw your attention to the following important information.

DINNER MONEY

Dinner money for the month of January is £46.80 and February is £41.60 for those who wish to pay monthly.

SNACK MONEY

£5 Snack Money is due for the month of January.

BREAKFAST AND 123 CLUBS

I am delighted to inform you that there has been a great demand for both these clubs and we will continue to offer both Breakfast and 123 clubs. **Reminder**, Breakfast club begins at 8am to 8.40am. Children should not be dropped off until this time. All children who arrive to school before 8.40am must attend Breakfast club (£1 charge). Children not attending

Breakfast club should arrive to school after **8.40am** as there will be adult supervision from this time until 9am. Children must not be left unsupervised on school grounds. Thank you for your cooperation with these arrangements.

IMPORTANT DATES

Swimming Lessons – P5-7 – Friday 12th January – Friday 16th March.

Catholic Schools Week – Monday 29th January – Friday 2nd February.

Primary One Parent Teacher Meetings – Monday 5th – Thursday 8th February.

Primary 4 & 7 Sacrament Information Evening – Tuesday 13th February @ 7pm.

Mid-Term Break – Thursday 15th February – Tuesday 20th February (inclusive).

School Photographer – Thursday 22nd February.

First Penance – Tuesday 13th March @ 7pm.

School Closed – Monday 19th March (St. Patrick's Day weekend).

Easter Holidays – Friday 30th March – Sunday 8th April (inclusive). Children finish school @ 12 pm on Holy Thursday (P7 children will attend the Chrism Mass.)

Holy Communion – Sunday 6th May @ 10am.

Confirmation – Sunday 20th May @ 2pm.

SHARED EDUCATION

I am delighted to inform you that we have been successful in our application for a Shared Education project, 'PEACE IV'. We submitted an application form in partnership with Killylea and Drumsallen Primary Schools that will involve our Primary One children learning through Play with Foundation Stage children in Killylea and Drumsallen. We hope that this project will provide us with a platform to develop a purposeful collaboration which will enhance the learning experiences of everyone involved.

AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Dates for the start and end of these programmes, and the classes involved, need to be finalised but we hope to offer a variety of activities this term.

PARKING

I would like to thank parents/guardians for parking safely around the school. I appreciate that there can be a lot of traffic at pick up times although making use of the parking areas in front of O'Connell's GAC pitch or at the Community Centre could ease congestion.

2PM COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS

Please ensure Children are collected punctually from school especially at **2pm** as the teachers do have other duties to attend to. Children who are not collected by **2.10 pm** from P1-3 classes will have to be collected from the **123 club**. Children who are collected after 2.15pm will be charged (**£2**).

Finally, I would like to congratulate Mrs Kate Comiskey who graduated with a Masters in Education from Queen's University, Belfast, in December. Mrs Comiskey has shown great dedication, enthusiasm and perseverance in the completion of her Masters which has benefited the learning experiences of the children in our school, most notably through the Paired Reading initiative that Mrs Comiskey initiated with P3 and P7 children. Well done!

Yours sincerely

Mr Tomás McKee
(Principal)