

Friday Note Looking back....

Friday 7 December 2018

No.10

Open Night: What a lovely evening we had at our Open Night on Tuesday night. It was great to see so many new parents coming to see around our fantastic school. Thank you to our choir and folk group who sang and played so beautifully and a special thank you to Sophie, Tadhg, Kiera and Etain who spoke on the night. What fantastic ambassadors for our school.

Panto:We had a fab-u-lous time at the panto on Wednesday. The pupils loved every minute of Jack and the Beanstalk! Thank you to Mrs Connolly for organising such a special treat for all of our pupils.

Book Fair: It was a great week last week when the book fair came to school. It was so great to see children choosing their special book to take home. Thank you to everyone who supported this event. The total takings for the week was just over £2800. This was a fantastic amount. It means we have £1680 to spend on books for our classes! Can I say a massive well done to our Primary 7 pupils who staffed the book fair in such a professional manner. I received so many compliments about them from parents visiting the fair. Well done Primary 7 on being wonderful ambassadors for our school!

Pupil Council: Last week our Pupil Council held a 'Wear your House Colours to School Day' for P4 – P7 pupils. They raised £84.60 to go towards new football nets for lunchtime play. Well done to our pupil council for showing such initiative!

Cross-Country Athletics: Huge congratulations to Anna B, Ella Rose, Owen W and Hannah R who all completed in the second stage of the Flahavan's Primary School Cross Country League. All the children improved upon their finishing position so well done to all. A special mention to Anna Broderick who finished an unbelievable first place out of approximately 100 runners and to Ella Rose Watson who finished in 10th. We eagerly await the final round of the competition!

Looking ahead....

Primary 1 Admissions September 2019

As you may already know, applications for admission to primary 1 in September 2019 is digital this year. Applications are made online. To help parents with this process we have set up 2 '*Digital Admissions Workshops.*' Parents can come along and we will help you complete your online application and photocopy your birth certificates and supporting documentation. The dates and times of the workshops are as follows:

•	Tuesday 8 January 2019	4.30pm – 6.30pm
•	Wednesday 9 January 2019	9.15am – 11am

Confirmation 2019

We have just received the date of Confirmation as **Thursday 21 March at 11am.** This is a date set by the Bishop's office so we cannot change this date.

Dinner Menu

W/B Monday 10 December 2018 (Week 3). On Wednesday 12 December we will have our Christmas Dinner. http://www.stjosephsschool.org/cmsfiles/items/downloads/2018-08-30_8_44_47//Dinner_Menu_2018_Term_1.pdf

Christmas Bazaar

On Monday we will have our annual Christmas Bazaar. This is always such a special event and it really helps to put us all in the Christmas Spirit. We'll have the 'Big Wheel' along with Christmas stalls, tombola, Elfridges and much, much more. You' don't even have to worry about making tea as we have a burger van and donut stall as well. The Bazaar will take place from **5.30pm** – **7.30pm**. Please come along and support this event.

Holy Trinity Nursery School Open Day

If you have a child who will be going to nursery school in September 2019, go along to Holy Trinity Nursery School Open Day at 10am on Monday 10th December.





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What's happening next week?

Monday 10	Tuesday 11	Wednesday 12	Thursday 13 December 2018	Friday 14 December
December 2018	December 2018	December 2018		2018
Primary 7 Trip: Bowling & Cinema Christmas Bazaar 5.30pm – 7.30pm	P2 Miss McAnerney visiting Santa in Lisburn's Linen Centre at 9.30am P2 Mrs Awada visiting Santa in Lisburn's Linen Centre at 11am	Christmas Dinner Day Primary 7 Shared Education Day: SUBS: Mrs O'Hare: Miss Leonard and Mrs McCambridge: Mrs Twene Pottery at Lisburn Arts Centre: P4 Mrs Connolly and P6 Mrs Gartland P4 Mrs Hanna visiting Santa in Lisburn's Linen Centre at 11am	Foundation Stage Christmas Show 9.30am Mrs Awada at Playful Learning in Practice Day 3 Course: Sub: Miss Leonard P3 Miss Clarke visiting Santa in Lisburn's Linen Centre at 9.30am P3 Mrs Gould visiting Santa in Lisburn's Linen Centre at 11am St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Collection	Foundation Stage Christmas Show 9.30am P5 swimming last session today! Choir Carol Singing in Lisburn City Centre at 11.15am P4 Mrs Connolly visiting Santa in Lisburn's Linen Centre at 11am

Adverse Weather Policy

As winter is well and truly here, I thought it would be wise to share our adverse weather policy with you at this stage.

This policy sets out the school's action plan for adverse weather. In times of extreme weather, such as a heavy snowfall, the Principal and Senior Leadership Team will consider the checklist below to see if it is necessary to close the school

The Principal and Senior Leadership Team will begin the process by answering these questions related to the safety of pupils and staff:

- 1. Can pupils and staff access the school building safely?
- 2. Can pupils and staff be evacuated in an emergency?
- 3. In an emergency, could the Emergency Services access the school?
- 4. Is the area designated for disembarkation from transport safe for pupils?
- 5. Transport can buses, meal deliveries, etc., reach the school, particularly if the unforeseen circumstances affect a large proportion of pupils?
- 6. If a limited number of staff and pupils can attend, is the Pupil Teacher Ratio acceptable? An acceptable PTR would be 1:30
- 7. Have local weather forecasts and road conditions, including those for areas from which staff will be travelling, been declared hazardous?

Having considered each question carefully, the Senior Leadership team will complete a Risk Assessment based on the answers. They will make their decision based on answers of more than 1 'No' to any of the 7 questions **If a decision is made to close**

- Here in St. Joseph's P.S. we have a text message service to inform parents if the school is closed and again when the decision is taken to re-open
- > All parent contacts will be sent a text message
- Radio Stations BBC Radio Ulster will also be informed
- > We will use our twitter feed to communicate the closure



I really and truly hope that I do not have to access this policy this year. I do love to see the snow but only at the weekends! Have a lovely weekend. Pauline

TIDEEMS PS + LIBURN



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