

PARENT NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2013

IMPORTANT DATES

5th November- School reopens after the mid term break
18th and 19th November- Annual Reviews
21st November- Prize giving Ceremony
5th December – last day for all after school clubs until January
6th December _ Parent Meetings
23rd December- School will close for the Christmas holidays and reopen on the 6th January

Fancy Dress Fun Day

On the 30th October all children and staff took part in our first ever Fancy Dress Day. The range of costumes was amazing from vampires to fairies, and Disney characters to smurfs- the turn out was amazing. The children and staff had a great fun day where they participated in games, had a party and watched DVD's. A fitting reward after a term of hard work. **Have a look on the Pupil Section of our website and see photos of children and staff.**

FIREWORK SAFETY

On the 21st October Mr Kelly and Mrs Mc Kinney's class visited Sainsbury's where they listened to firemen talk about the dangers of fireworks. The talk was very informative and the children were amazed at the damage that fireworks can do. Following the demonstration Sainsbury's provided refreshments for staff and pupils.
Thanks Sainsbury's.

AUTUMN WALKS

The Primary One classes visited Lady Dixon Park this month. They took part in an Autumn walk where they observed the different changes in nature and collected leaves and conkers to take back to class. They have created interesting classroom displays using their collections.

P4's study the history of Carrickfergus Castle

Last week the children from P4 went on a trip to Carrickfergus castle. The children have been studying castles as part of World Around Us and it was exciting for them to visit an actual castle. They went on a tour of the castle and particularly enjoyed listening to the grisly stories. A great day was had by all.

ANTI BULLYING MONTH

November is antibullying month. During this month children will learn about bullying through stories, drama, assemblies and discussions. The children will learn about the different types of bullying including cyber bullying through social media sites and mobile phones. They will also learn how to report it and the consequences if they are involved in bullying. In Holy Trinity bullying of any sort is not tolerated. If you have any concerns or worries please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Boyd

Sports News

Congratulations to both the girls and boys Gaelic footballers who have recently gone through their respective league campaigns unbeaten. After wins against Ballymacrickett and St Kieran's, the boys have now qualified for their league final where they will have the chance to defend their title against St Patrick's (Holywood). The girls' will also defend their league crown against St Bernard's (Wynchurch) after successive wins against St Peter's, St Kieran's and Holy Child. The finals will take place at the end of November. Best of luck to all the boys and girls involved

COFFEE MORNING FOR PARENTS NOW ON A THURSDAY FROM 9.15-11.15

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ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY

There are rare occasions when our school will find it necessary to close. These are usually occasions when adverse weather means that the school site is unsafe and poses health and safety risks to the school community. The school will make all practicable efforts to keep parents informed as to the situation with the school during adverse weather conditions, as we appreciate that such conditions and the uncertainty places very considerable difficulties upon parents.

Our first consideration is always the safety of the children. In adverse weather conditions, the journey to school may be too hazardous for staff to set out and, once here, equally hazardous for them to get home. Health and Safety risk assessments mean that we cannot open the school if there are insufficient staff to properly supervise the children.

In the event of adverse weather:

- A decision will be made, as far as possible, before 8.00am as to whether the school needs to be closed.
- **In the event of closure, the school will send a message to local radio stations and will post information on the school website.**

- In the event of the school having to close during the day due to unforeseen worsening weather or similar unforeseen circumstances, this information will be given by telephone to parents or to the local media for parents to collect their children.
- In the event of snow, some pathways will be cleared and salted. Parents, children and visitors should be aware that pathways, even where cleared, do remain dangerous. Before and after school class hours, parents are responsible for ensuring that their children do not slide on the school playground.
- During significant adverse weather conditions parents should bring their children into the school building. Parents may be required to supervise their children in the hall or classroom until staff are available to formally take supervision of the children. They are asked to leave the school immediately as soon as the staff have taken over.

- All after school clubs will be cancelled in poor weather.

Where the school is officially closed, all absence is counted as authorised absence.

We will always do everything in our power to avoid school closure.

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