



# PARENT NEWSLETTER

## December 2015



### Important Dates

Prize-Giving: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 1:30.

Christmas Holidays: School closes at 10:45 on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

#### Concert Week:

P2 and P3: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> /Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 9:45 am

P1 and P4: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> /Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 9:45 am

P5/6/7 Carol Service in Holy Trinity Church – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 1:30.

### Anti-Bullying Week

Last week was designated as ‘Anti-Bullying Week’. The Northern Ireland Anti-Bullying Forum defines bullying as **the repeated use of power by one or more persons intentionally to harm, hurt or adversely affect the rights and needs of another or others.** In Holy Trinity we have a zero tolerance to bullying. In November we have had two assemblies dedicated to the theme of bullying and we have rewritten our ‘Blast Off to Bullies’ programme for each year group in the school. A particular concern for us and all schools at present is that of ‘Cyber Bullying’. Cyber bullying is bullying that takes place through electronic technologies, such as: phones, play station or social networks.

Some examples of cyber bullying include:

- Posting hurtful, embarrassing or threatening material (eg. posts, photos, video) on social network websites.
- Sending nasty messages by text or through an app.

Here are some tips about how to deal with cyber bullying:

- Don’t respond;
- Don’t retaliate;
- Save the evidence;
- Talk to a trusted adult;
- Block the bully;
- Don’t be a bully;
- Be a friend, not a bystander

The NSPCC have recently updated their website with excellent advice for parents; it is well worth a visit. It can be found at [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk). Other good websites are: [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) [www.safekids.com](http://www.safekids.com)

Mrs Boyd and Mrs Rooney are CEOP ambassadors and are always available to discuss any concerns with parents.

### Stars of the Month

At the November assemblies the Stars of the Month were awarded. Congratulations to all the pupils. KS1: Cori McCabe, Kevin Elumbaring, Finnbarr Teggart, Cormac Dempster, Carly Burns, Ava Glenholmes, Abbie Voyle, Lorcan Fitsimons, Curtis McCabe, Fionn O’Brien, Eve Heffernan, Jessica Kelly, Daire Keenan, Dakota Donnelly, Samantha Murtagh, Andre Maguire, Jessica O’Neill and Callum Gaskin.

In KS2 the award winners were:

Daniel Todd, Matthew McGoldrick, Terence Connolly, Alex Lynch, Katie McCullagh, Dylan Kerr, Che Dunlop, Christopher Rodgers, Karl Huston-McGreevy, Clodagh McLaughlin, Corey Fox, Aaron Mc Clean, Joseph Doran, Brendan Mc Nally and Aaron Casey.



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### Disney on Ice

Thirteen children from the choir were invited to attend Disney on Ice as a VIP on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November. They had a fantastic afternoon and were treated like stars. They had a private VIP box in the SSE Arena with a waiter to themselves. They were treated to popcorn, juice, chips, nuggets, sweets and lots more while they watched the show. They sang along with Toy Story, Little Mermaid and Frozen. A great afternoon was had by all. Thank you to the Odyssey Trust for the opportunity.

### Adverse Weather

Our aim is at all times to keep the school open; however there are certain times which make this impossible. In the event of severe weather like a very heavy fall of snow it may not be possible to ensure the safety of our parents, staff and pupils. Should the school be unable to open we will follow the following procedures:

- A decision will be made by 8:30am
- Text message to parents;
- Information given to BBCNI (Radio Ulster)
- Posted on our school website

If the school should have to close due to unforeseen worsening conditions during the day parents will receive a text message and information will be sent to broadcast on local media for parents to collect children.

**If you have changed your mobile number it is important that the new number is given to the office as soon as possible.**

### After School Clubs P4-7

Term One after school clubs for P4-7 pupils will finish on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

#### Right of the Month

**Article 42:** Governments must make the convention known to all children and adults. (Knowing your rights)

**Rights Respecting Behaviour:** We can respect each other's right by using our knowledge and understanding of the UNCRC articles to make our school a better place. Teachers can help us to access this right by providing us with information about our rights.

### Road Safety Week

The Primary Three classes took part in a Road Safety Walk accompanied by the Road Safety Team from the Department of the Environment. Each class in turn went for a walk around the local area to observe the potential dangers and to learn how we cross roads in safety. Margaret Aiken from DOE sent the following e mail:

“It was a pleasure to take them out, lovely well behaved children, they are a credit to the school. We look forward to being back next year.” The pupils also participated in a Road Safety Video Conference with schools throughout the North. They were able to pose questions and receive answers in real time.



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### First Penance Enrolment Service

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November, the Primary 3 classes completed their First Penance Enrolment. The children spoke out loudly and sang beautifully, displaying excellent respect and behaviour throughout.

### Childline Non-Uniform Day

We will have a non-uniform day on the 9<sup>th</sup> December with the proceeds going to Childline. The cost is 50p per pupil or £1.00 per family.

### Hearing Impaired Unit

The Deaf Association has recently been working with the pupils in the Hearing Impaired Unit. They helped the children create their own web design and they worked on creative writing. The children created their own sound poems which were very impressive.

### Thanks

Thanks to Monagh Developments for providing the school for funding which allowed us to purchase traditional hand painted crosses for all classrooms in KS1.

### Sunshine Class

The Sunshine group and Mrs Mc Greevy's class attended a storytelling session in Whiterock library on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November. The pupils were treated to a tour of the library. Sunshine class pupils also enjoyed a craft morning on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November. The parents and children enjoyed making rainbow toast, painting pasta jewellery and playing fun board games. The children

and parents enjoyed a hard earned glass of apple juice and tasty sausages and pancakes.

### P7 Trip to W5

Holy Trinity Primary School took part in a brand new and exciting workshop called Make Music with Electricity, in W5 on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November. The 90-minute workshop involved introducing the pupils to some of the basic concepts behind electricity and engineering, building some simple but really cool circuits, discovering how electricity has been used to make music and finally building their very own electronic musical instrument, using the fabulous Ototo synthesizer which allows anyone to make music with almost anything! Our P7 pupils used cardboard which they made into guitar shapes.

The children also had a chance to explore the exhibitions in W5 including the Climb-it activity frame, which was a lot of fun.

### Parents' Room Information

Our Tea/Coffee Morning continues every Friday at 9:15. We have also some activities each Friday leading up to Christmas:

**4<sup>th</sup> December: Making baubles for the Christmas tree**

**11<sup>th</sup> December: Learn how to practise massage**

**18<sup>th</sup> December: Making a flower arrangement for Christmas.**

*(Please note the change in date for the flower arranging)*

Thank you for the great interest shown in the courses we would like to offer. We are currently collating the information and we will organise dates and times in the new year.



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### OFFER YOUR CHILD A BETTER FUTURE IN

# HOLY TRINITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

MONAGH ROAD BELFAST BT11 8EG

View our website on [www.holytrinitybelfast.co.uk](http://www.holytrinitybelfast.co.uk)

## **OPEN DAY WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 9.30-10.30**

**FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN ENTERING PRIMARY ONE IN SEPTEMBER  
2016**

Holy Trinity School is committed to providing to all pupils the highest level of education and pastoral care in a safe, caring, well equipped and attractive learning environment. Our talented and committed staff have high expectations and a belief that every child can achieve their full potential

We provide:

- A happy, well disciplined, supportive and well-resourced learning environment
- A broad, balanced and differentiated curriculum.
- A wide range of after school clubs (hurling, gaelic football, basketball, choir, tin whistle, guitar, brass, recorder, sewing, games, homework, science, French Irish, German)
- High quality teaching and learning leading to excellent academic achievements
- An Open Door policy and an effective educational partnership with parents and the community.

### **HOLY TRINITY ARE THE PROUD RECIPIENTS OF THESE PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS**

**THE ICT MARK**

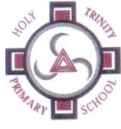
**THIRD MILLENNIUM ICT AWARD**

**MARJORIE BOXALL AWARD FOR OUR NURTURING  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD**

**ECO SCHOOLS GREEN FLAG AWARD**

*Planning has been approved for a 3G pitch on our school grounds.*

*Application forms are available from the school office. Children are welcome from all areas.*



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