



# EBRINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

## November '20 2020 Newsletter



### Christmas Week in school

From Monday 7 December-Friday 11 December 2020, we are planning to have a Christmas Week in school. During the week, we are planning a number of Christmas events/ activities that we can safely manage in school. **Throughout the week, pupils will not have to come to school in their uniform, rather they can come in more Christmas themed clothing (Christmas jumpers, etc.).**

**Christmas dinner will be served on Tuesday 8 December**, and we are hoping to have a special 'socially distanced' visitor to school on this day also. A menu for dinner and a booking slip (Online via FORMS) will be sent out shortly to confirm numbers. Monies still need to be paid and dinner booked through the SchoolMoney app closer to the time.

We will be learning some **Christmas songs** within our 'bubbles' and will be recording these to be uploaded to the online classrooms for parents to see. **This recording is planned to be done on Wednesday 9 December**, so we want to make sure everyone in school are wearing Christmas jumpers on that day.

**On Friday 11 December, school will close a little earlier than usual, at 1:15pm.** This is to allow staff to come together, in some form, and enjoy a very well-deserved 'socially-distanced' Christmas lunch together.

### Staff Gifts

As a staff, we have met and discussed the giving of Christmas gifts by pupils. Whilst we, as staff really appreciate your gifts at Christmas, this year we would like you instead to either contribute to a local charity, perhaps donate to a local foodbank or shoebox appeal, or to give a little extra to a deserving family member in what has been a very challenging year for many.



### Supporting our Local Foodbanks

Starting on Monday 23 November-Friday 4 December, we are planning collections for the foodbanks in the city. We are asking parents to support in any way possible. Please see some of the food items which are best suited for foodbank donation. Please remember, anything sent in should be non-perishable.

1. Cereals.
2. Tinned Soups and Stews.
3. Pasta, rice and pasta sauce.
4. Tinned meat and fish.
5. Tinned beans and vegetables.
6. Tinned fruit.
7. Condiments and Spices.
8. Broth and Stock.
9. Long-life Juice.
10. Toiletries



### Christmas Cards

I am aware a number of parents have asked teachers lately about Christmas cards being sent home. As I am sure you are well aware, we have looked to completely minimise the amount of paper being sent from school to home and vice versa. **In the current climate, we feel it would not be appropriate for classes to be sending masses of cards within school to homes.** We hope parents and pupils understand our reasons for this, and we hope that those who wish to send cards to friends can do so by another means.

### **School Enrolment: REMINDER**

Information on the procedures for school admissions in September 2021 should be available on the EA website [eani.org.uk/parents/admissions](http://eani.org.uk/parents/admissions) mid- December 2020 for Pre-school/Primary 1 places and for post-primary places (Year 8 entry). This means parents making the application directly to EA, without involvement of school, for Nursery and Year 1. School are currently updating criteria to send back to EA for Nursery and Year 1 admissions. The dates given for the application process for primary and nursery schools currently is that it will go live on the EA website on the 7 January 2021, with a closing date for applications on 29 January 2021. Post-primary applications are also going online this year, rather than the traditional forms that were completed. Exact dates have yet to be given for this, but it should be during January/ February 2021

### **School Flu Vaccine: REMINDER**

**REMINDER:** The school health team will be visiting school on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November** to give the nasal flu vaccine to all pupils who have returned the brown envelope to school with the required information.

### **School Cashless System**

We still have a number of parents not booking dinners for their child in school. This has resulted in a number of phone calls needing made by the office staff. **Both paying and FSM pupils need to have the dinner booked on the system before 11:59pm on the day before it is required. It is the responsibility of the parent to do this.**



### **After-Schools Club P1**

We will send out an updated survey to our P1 parents about running after school club from 2:00-3:00pm for P1 pupils, beginning on our return to school in January, Monday-Thursday. Cost would be £2.50 per day and pupils would be supervised by staff in their class bubble. Priority will be given to those who have older siblings in school, finishing at 3:00pm. **REMINDER:** P2 pupils stay in school until 3:00pm from January

### **Anti-Bullying Week 2020: United Against Bullying**

The theme for Anti-Bullying Week 2020 is: United Against Bullying. Anti-Bullying Week is this week from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November. We had a very successful 'Odd Socks RED Day' on Monday 16 November, to mark the first day of Anti-Bullying Week.



### **Covid-19**

We continue to manage, as effectively as possible, the spread of Covid-19 within our school community. We need your continued support to allow us to do this.



**Please remember, if your child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive, you SHOULD NOT send them to school. If a child is waiting on a test result, they must NOT ATTEND SCHOOL until confirmed negative and no further symptoms are evident after 48 hours.** If you have any doubt, please contact school.

If required to self-isolate, please ensure to do this for the required 14-day period. **Even if you are tested during this time, and present with a negative result, you are still required to self-isolate for the period of time identified at the start.**

### **Mrs Stange's retirement**

Earlier this term, we were saddened to hear of the retirement of **Mrs Stange, who had worked as a lunchtime supervisor in Ebrington PS for 48 years!** I know over this time she has supported not just our current pupils, but certainly many of our current parents and even, I believe, some grandparents. We wish her well in her retirement. We plan to invite Mrs Stange back to school for a presentation to mark all her years of service, when appropriate to do so. If anyone would like to make a small donation to this, send in a marked, sealed envelope with your child before Friday 27 Nov, and it can be collected in the classroom.

### School Christmas Card competition

Thank you to all the pupils who took part in our school Christmas card competition. The standard throughout school was fantastic. Rather than choose just one card, we felt, due to the standard of entries, that this simply was not possible. Instead, we have selected 5 winners from throughout school. Please see below the winning entries. They have now been sent to the printers and will be posted out to all our local schools and support services for Christmas.

We plan to make a small presentation to these pupils, to highlight their great work, when we have their cards back in school.



Roshana Khan P7



Lily Verschur P1



Emilie Downey Nursery



Adam Cormie P5



Thomas McGowan P6

### AND FINALLY...

Just like Trevor McDonald on ITV News, we have a very good news story to share at the end of our newsletter.

Firstly, **congratulations to Mr Moore, P4A teacher**, on the safe arrival of his first child. Everyone involved in Ebrington are over the moon for him and his wife. Baby Matthew David Alan Moore arrived on Monday 9 November, weighing 6 lbs 6 ½ oz.



**It's A Boy!**

Also, **congratulations to Mrs Dalzell, Nursery 1 teacher**, on the safe arrival of her first child. We are all delighted in Ebrington for her and her husband. Baby James Dalzell arrived on Wednesday 18 November, weighing 6lbs 7oz.

And, hot off the press, **congratulations to Mrs McCrea, P5B teacher**, on the safe arrival of her second child, who we are sure will be a great little sister for Harrison. We are delighted for both Mrs McCrea and her husband. Baby McCrea arrived early this morning, weighing 8lbs 8oz. We are excited to hear a name later.

