



EBRINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

January 2020 Newsletter

Happy New Year

Welcome back to school. We hope you enjoyed the break and feel refreshed and ready to start another busy term. May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a prosperous and peaceful New Year.

Christmas Carol Service & Concerts

Our school Carol Service and all the school concerts were a great success during December. It was wonderful to be able to welcome so many of our parents, family and friends to these events. Thank you for your generous donations at the end of each. In total, we raised the fantastic amount of £ 1256.58 . This amount will be shared between 'Healing Hearts ' a counselling service for young people at Foyle Hospice and SANDS-The still-birth and neo-natal ward of Altnagelvin Hospital.

School Enrolment

REMINDER: the online admissions portal for parents of pupils entering pre-school and primary opened today, Tuesday 7 January, and can be found at eani.org.uk/parents/admissions. Applications can be made until Thursday 30 January 2020. This means parents making the application directly to EA, without involvement of school. The school office will provide support for any parents who have no access to internet, or who are having difficulty, on Tuesday 14 & Wednesday 15 January. Please contact school to make an appointment time, if needed. We hope all parents and friends will support the school by recommending Ebrington to neighbours and friends with young children or any new families moving into this area.

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION-Punctuality/Attendance.

In most cases, our pupils come to school on time every day. In making sure they do, you are helping to establish good practice for the future. Patterns of lateness and absence that start in primary school can end up in truancy in post-primary school and "hard to break habits" for the work place. So please make sure you HELP your child by:

- Being firm about bedtimes.
- Encouraging them to prepare the night before, those items they will need for school the next day.
- Making sure they are in time to have breakfast and to leave the house promptly.

REMEMBER: SCHOOL COMMENCES AT 8.55 am with the first bell at 8.50 am. Pod doors are locked down after this time and entry is via the main school office, where parents must sign their child in late.

If a parent needs to speak to a teacher, the morning time as school is starting is not the appropriate time to do it. Please ensure you come earlier to school with your child if a message needs passed forward.

Reminder Flu Vaccine – Thursday 9th January.

Primary 6 & 7-OPEN NIGHTS

Could I remind parents of Yr 7 pupils that our local post-primary schools are holding "Open Nights" and "Information Days" for parents and pupils this month. Further details on the Transfer Procedure for both P6 parents & P7 parents will follow shortly.

Lisneal College-Wednesday 8 January, 6:30-9:00

Foyle College-Thursday 9 January, 6:30pm-9:00pm

Oakgrove College-Saturday 11 January, 11:00am

Calendar Date change

When the 2018-2019 holiday list was sent out, Monday 4 May was identified as the official Bank Holiday in May. As you are more than likely aware, for the year 2020, it has been changed to Friday 8 May, to mark 75 years since VE Day.

Therefore, please note the change in date from Monday 4 May to Friday 8 May.

After School Clubs

Please ensure that, when using the after school clubs, booking is in by the Thursday of the preceding week. This is necessary, as Friday is the day when staff are timetabled to the various programmes/ activities on offer. During December, a large number of booking forms were coming in late (Friday or Monday morning), which meant that supervision needed adjusting (significantly, at times). **REMINDER:** late booking forms will not be accepted.

Primary 2 'Extended Hours'

REMINDER: P2 pupils now stay in school on a Monday-Thursday until 3:00pm, but continue to finish on a Friday at 2:00pm.

Parent-Teacher interviews

This year, our parent-teacher interviews for P1-P6 will operate slightly differently from previous years. They will be held on Monday 27 January and Monday 3 February, between 1:00-5:30pm. A letter with more detailed information will be issued home this week.

On these two Mondays, there will be NO after school provision, as school finishes at 1:00 pm FOR EVERYONE

Regular hair checks

I would encourage parents to carry out regular hair checks for 'visitors'. Often, on return to school after a break, there may be a good chance of these visitors appearing. They can be removed by wet combing with a special fine-toothed comb. You should try this method first:

- wash hair with ordinary shampoo
- apply lots of conditioner (any conditioner will do)
- comb the whole head of hair, from the roots to the ends

Lost Property

We have gathered up a large amount of lost property during the first term back to school, with no names. If you feel your child may be missing a coat, jumper, hats, etc. please call in to school.