



DROMORE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

DECEMBER UPDATE



School Choir performing – Sunday 1st Dec at 3.30pm in Warrenpoint Municipal Park

Open Day for prospective new parents – Wednesday 4th Dec (no 321 Club available)

Christmas Art Workshop at St Mark's HS on Saturday 7th Dec 11-12.15pm

Christmas Jumper Day: Thursday 12th Dec

PTA Christmas Disco – Friday 13th Dec 6.30-8.15pm

PTA Christmas Family Day– Saturday 14th Dec 2-4pm

School Production 'Hoodwinked' – Wednesday 18th Dec at 6.45pm

School closes 12 noon on Friday 20th December & reopens Monday 6th Jan 2020

PTA NEWS

Following our very successful Autumn Fayre, which raised £1080, the PTA plans to hold a number of fun events for the children over the next few weeks in the run up to Christmas.

- On Friday 13th Dec from 6.30-8.15pm there will be a special Christmas disco. Entrance cost will be £3 for primary aged pupils (this includes a photo and juice) and all funds raised will go towards our new trim trail equipment. Goodies will also be for sale in the tuck shop. Parents are welcome to drop off and collect again at the end of the evening and parents with younger siblings are welcome to stay.

- On Saturday 14th Dec from 2-4pm the PTA will also be hosting a Christmas Family Day for the whole community. This will be a **free** event and lots of festive activities are planned. We also hope a special visitor will have time to make a guest appearance! Further details will follow.

- A short PTA meeting will take place in school on Wednesday 4th December at 9.05 am for any parents who would like to help in the organising of these events. All welcome!

SCHOOL CHOIR

Please come and support our School Choir & Makaton Choir who will be performing on **Sunday 1st December at 3.30pm** at the Artisan Market in Warrenpoint Park.

They will also be performing at **10.30am** in The Quay's Shopping Centre & **11.40am** at the Buttercrane Shopping Centre on **Thursday 5th December.**



School Christmas Dinner/Jumper Day

The school's Christmas dinner is Thursday 12th December. This will also be a non-uniform day and we would encourage the children to come dressed for the festivities by wearing their Christmas jumpers. We suggest a donation of £1 per child and proceeds will go to the 'Life & Time' charity in Rostrevor.

BOOK FAIR

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in school the week beginning Monday 11th December. This is a fabulous opportunity to select some books for your child or perhaps to buy some Christmas presents. It's also a great way to support your school as any commission earned will be used to buy new reading books and to add to our Accelerated Reader Library. The book fair will be open as follows:

Monday 9th Dec: 2-3.30pm
Tuesday 10th Dec: 8.45-9.00am and 2-3.30pm
Wednesday 11th Dec: 8.45-9.00am and 2-4pm
Thursday 12th Dec: 8.45-9.00am and 2-3.30pm
Saturday 14th Dec: 2-4pm



Open Day and New Admissions 2020/21

We plan to have an **Open Afternoon on WEDNESDAY 4th DECEMBER** for prospective new parents. This is to allow new parents to see around the classrooms and to get an insight into what school life is like at Dromore Road. **To facilitate this, there will be no 321 Cub on this date.**

Applications for admissions to primary school places for September 2020 will be again online (www.eani.org.uk). **The Go Live date for the new digital admissions is Tuesday 7th January 2020 at 12 noon. The closing time and date for punctual applications will be 12 noon on Thursday 30th January 2020.**

We would be grateful if you'd share this information with any parents you know with children of nursery age.



At Dromore Road Primary School
 we want every child to be safe, happy and actively learning. If you, like us value **LEARNING, FAMILY and COMMUNITY** we are the right choice of school for you!

- ✓ Child centred
- ✓ Caring & inclusive
- ✓ Small school warmth where every pupil is known by name
- ✓ Passionate and highly committed staff
- ✓ High teacher/pupil ratio, so children receive more one-to-one teaching time and a highly-personalised learning experience
- ✓ Exciting, engaging curriculum
- ✓ Great academic results
- ✓ Excellent, bespoke intervention for children requiring support
- ✓ Pastoral care of the highest standards
- ✓ Technology-embracing
- ✓ Positive relationships with parents and the wider community
- ✓ Varied programme of extra-curricular activities

Open Wednesday 4th December, 2-4pm

Christmas Family Day Saturday 14th December, 2-4pm

Alternatively, if you'd like to have a tour of the school during the normal working day please contact the school office.

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ROAD SAFETY POSTER CHALLENGE

Congratulations to Brooke Lawson in Y5 who was presented with a voucher in the Quay's Shopping Centre on Thursday 21st November 2019.

Guidance on Infection Control

As you are probably aware from the news, there are currently a significant number of children off school due to illness and some schools in NI have even had to close due to a vomiting/ diarrhoea outbreak and school activities have been cancelled. To control infection, we would suggest that if your child is feeling unwell to keep them off and if your child has a vomiting or diarrhoea bug, advice from Public Health Agency is that they should remain off for 48 hours from their last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.

BURNS SKILLS SCHOOL RETURNS

In January, Burns Skills School will be returning to take two new after school clubs.

Monday – dance/hip hop

Thursday - soccer



These clubs will be again at a subsidised cost of £15 for 10 sessions and will be available to P1-3 from 2-3pm and P4-7 from 3-4pm.

Please note there are only 20 places available per class and that the full amount must be paid prior to classes commencing. If you'd like your child to attend, please send a £5 deposit into Mrs McParland who will log this against your child's name. The remaining balance must be paid before Friday 10th January.

Year 7 Post Primary Update

On Friday 22th November, the Year 7 children had a fun filled day at St Mark's High School for their Taster Day. Newry High School also held a Taster day on Wed 13th November which Y6 & 7 thoroughly enjoyed.

Post Primary admission criteria and further information regarding transfer is currently available at

<https://www.eani.org.uk/admissions-guides/post-primary-schools-admission-guide/general-information>

Transfer Forms will be sent home in January with further information.

Art of Brilliance Inspection

Today we had our official inspection. The pupils presented their 10 point action plan to Paddy and the evidence of how being involved in the project had benefitted them personally, in class and in school. They also provided evidence on how they'd tried to spread the message within the community. The children were superb and spoke very positively about their experiences. We can now officially say, we are an 'OUTSTANDINGLY HAPPY SCHOOL' and we even have the banner to prove it!

Christmas Hampers

The school would greatly value your support in helping the PTA collate items to make up Christmas hampers. Please check your child's bag to see what we'd suggested your child could bring for the Class Hampers, though any Christmas food items will be gratefully received. Each family have also been given a raffle ticket book which we would be grateful if you could try to sell. The hamper draw will take place at the end of our production on 18th December.

School Christmas Production 'Hoodwinked'

Preparations have commenced for this year's school production 'Hoodwinked' which will take place at 6.45pm on Wednesday 18th December. As in previous years, all the children will be taking part and we thank parents in advance for supporting your child in learning song words and lines. All pupils should now have received a note of details of what they need to wear but please speak to your child's teacher if you're unsure.

Pupils will be issued with 2 tickets per family and additional tickets can be requested from the office. Instead of an entrance fee the school has decided to make a donation to Marie Curie. Buckets will be available on the night for anyone who'd like to contribute.

