



December 2024

#### **Theme -**

Our theme for December is '**Christmas**'

We are really busy already learning about the Nativity Story and singing lots of Christmas songs. We will be having lots of fun making Christmas Decorations, and we will be wrapping presents in Santa's Kingdom and Home Corner role play areas this month. We are decorating Christmas Trees, making magic reindeer food and modelling special birthday cakes for Baby Jesus! We will be talking about the star shape, with its straight lines and points.

**Stories** – As well as the Nativity Story, we will be reading stories about 'Santa', 'Threadbear', and 'The Elf on the Shelf.'

#### **Colour –**

Our colours this month are **gold** and **silver**. Please encourage your child to look out for gold and silver objects in their environment.

#### **Outdoor Play**

The weather is definitely getting colder! We want to play outdoors as much as possible, so please remember to send your child's coat with them each day, along with a scarf, hat and gloves as we move to icier conditions! We are encouraging the children's independence when putting on and removing their coat – they have such a sense of achievement when they master this. I know it takes a lot longer, but please let them practise this at home too. We encourage the children to put their hood on first and then put their arms in!

If your child is wearing wellies to school please send a change of shoes for inside with them too.

Thank you

#### **Nursery Fund**

Just a reminder that Nursery Fund should be paid weekly, preferably by bank transfer. We rely on this money to be able to provide snack, Jo Jingles and other visitors and to replenish resources to enable us to provide the best possible learning experiences for your child in Nursery. We have lots of nice treats planned and would appreciate it if you could make sure your payments are up to date before the end of term.

Thank you

#### **School Photographer**

Hopefully you will have received an email with a link to view your child's photograph. If you would like the prints before Christmas please order them online as soon as possible.

We are aware that a number of children missed having their photo taken due to absence. The School Photographer will return later in the school year and will take these photos then.

### **Christmas Presents for Staff – Donations to St Vincent de Paul**

We are so thankful that some parents wish to buy presents for staff at Christmas, however this year, in light of the impact of the rising cost of living and the financial burden this has had on everyone, we are asking that you do not send presents in, but instead, if you can afford to, you can make a donation to our chosen charity, St Vincent de Paul, for our **Christmas Jumper Day** on **FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**.

SVP do amazing work in our local community, offering practical support to those who need it. We hope to be able to raise some much-needed cash for them, which will benefit lots of local families in need of help this Christmas, giving them a voucher to enable them to have 'The gift of choice.'

### **Christmas Cards**

We will send home a list of names of the children in your child's class via Seesaw, to help you when writing Christmas Cards to their classmates. You can then help your child put the cards in their classmate's boxes at a time that suits you.

### **Open Day**

We will be having an Open Day, for parents of children who are due to start Nursery in September 2025 on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Those attending do not have to make an appointment and can just call, along with their child, between 2.00 and 6.00pm on the day.

To facilitate set up for the Open Day, there will be **no Blue Class (afternoon) session** on this day and **Yellow (full time) class will end at 12.45pm**. Dinners will be served as normal on this day.

If any of your friends or neighbours have children who will be eligible to start pre-school in September 2025 please pass on the information and encourage them to come along!

### **Enrolment for Nursery and Primary Schools for September 2025**

Online applications for Nursery and Primary places will be open from **10<sup>th</sup> January – 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025**. You will apply via the Parent Portal available at [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk), just as you did last year for Nursery. We have been sharing information on Primary School's Open Days as we receive it, without bias, via Seesaw. It is very important that you apply before 24<sup>th</sup> January, so your child is considered at Stage 1 of the process.

### **Christmas Nativity**

We have been busy practising our Nativity Plays! We are looking forward to welcoming you into Nursery this year to watch the Nativity performances live on the following dates / times –

**GREEN** AM Class – **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas Stay and Play in Dunclug **Nursery** School at 10.30am

**BLUE** Part Time PM Class – **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December** in Dunclug **Nursery** School at 1.00pm

**RED** Part Time AM Class – **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** in Dunclug **Primary** School at 10.00am

**YELLOW** Full Time Class – **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** in Dunclug **Primary** School at 11.00am

### **Car parking**

As we are one of three schools who share our site, we understand that the traffic can be very heavy at drop off and pick up times. We are asking that parents please show consideration of others when parking at our entrance. As staff have different starting and finishing times to cater with different

session times, we are asking that parents or carers do not drive into the Nursery School's car park or block our vehicle entrance by parking across our gate.

**We also need this entrance to be kept clear, in case an emergency vehicle needs to access our Nursery School.**

**Upcoming Events and Important dates –**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Jo Jingles – during normal session times

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December – OPEN DAY – **No Blue (afternoon) Class, Yellow Class finish at 12.45pm**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day, donations in aid of St Vincent de Paul

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Blue Class Nativity, Green Class Stay and Play

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Red and Yellow Class Nativity

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – St.Colmcille's pupils will visit us during the sessions to sing Christmas songs

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December- Blue Class Christmas Party – no uniform needed and last day of term

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December - **Red and Yellow Class** Christmas Party – no uniform - **session ends at 11.00am for Red and Yellow Class**



**Birthday Boys and Girls**

Happy Birthday to all of these special boys and girls who will be celebrating their birthday this month

**Red Class**

**James**

**Reuben**

**Jamie**

**Lily**

**Yellow Class**

**Tiernan**

**Willow**

**Green Class**

**Blaine**

**Blue Class**

**Ethan**

**Jack**

**Ollie K**



*On behalf of the Governors and Staff of our Nursery, I would like to wish you and your family a Happy and Healthy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.*

*Pamela Muir*