



## Good Shepherd Primary & Nursery School Newsletter Nov-December 2020



Christmas Dinner will be served on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December for those receiving Free School Meals and Nursery Children.



The Waterside Family Support Hub are in a position to access financial and practical support for families in the Waterside to ease the stress and worry associated with the cost of Christmas, which we know will be even more challenging than usual this year. This can assist in purchasing oil, electric, gas and food and they have also received Covid specific monies to the Hub from WHSCT which will be also directed towards Digital poverty, Fuel poverty and Holiday hunger. Finally, the Hub have a partnership with Save the Children through which they can access vouchers to support with purchasing toys through Argos and clothes or food for children through ASDA, Tesco or Sainsburys. **This funding is only accessible to families with children aged 6 years and younger.** Please get in touch:

Email: [WatersideHub@actionforchildren.org.uk](mailto:WatersideHub@actionforchildren.org.uk)

Tel : 02871 329444

Address : Waterside Family Hub, Action for Children, Building 83, Ledwidge Avenue, Ebrington, L'Derry, BT47 6GZ.



**Children can wear a Christmas Jumper/Santa hat (school uniform bottoms & shoes) every day, week commencing Monday 7<sup>th</sup>- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Could we please ask for a cash donation to be brought in before Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December (placed in a sealed plastic bag) which will be presented to the Waterside Parish for the annual food appeal.**

### Staff Gifts

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.



### School Enrolment SEPTEMBER 2021, FAO Primary 7 & perspective Nursery & P1 children.

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 (Nursery)/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. 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. Due to Covid-19 restrictions we are unable to hold an open morning for perspective parents and children, however a virtual tour will be available on our school website and social media platforms soon-please share!



Please ensure that you have downloaded the Schools NI app and have notifications switched on. This is our central means of communication.

Class teachers will use Seesaw for class specific announcements and to engage in remote learning if necessary.

**If you need to contact the school out of school hours regarding Covid-19, please do so by email only: smcafferty143@c2kni.net Thankyou!**

**If your contact details change at any time, please inform us- this is very important!**

### Waterside Parish Appeal information:

CAN YOU HELP OUR COMMUNITY THIS CHRISTMAS BY DONATING TO OUR CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL!

**WHAT:** Donation of non-perishable food items with good sell by dates

**WHERE:** The Waterside Parish Office or Hillcrest Community Hub Trench Rd

**WHEN:** We ask that all donations could be received by Sunday 6th December

Merry Christmas

1 of 1 JOY APPEAL

LENDHAMOTT & STRATHFIELD PARISHES

Could you help a less fortunate child in our community this Christmas by gifting a new toy? Help us give local children and families a Happy Christmas! Please leave toys unwrapped in Hillcrest new Community Hub Trench Rd by 6th December 2020. Thank-you for your generosity and have a Merry Christmas!

**Attendance Matters- miss school and miss out!** As you are aware you must inform school on the first morning of your child being absent from school. Attendance is monitored closely in school and discussed regularly with EWO. Punctuality is also noted. Please be aware that your child's attendance is affected by arriving late to school. Once your child's attendance goes below 90% we will monitor this closely and you will be kept informed of their stage in the process before it reaches EWO level. Receiving an attendance update is not always a cause for concern it is part of the policy & procedures for managing attendance that we must adhere to.



We have updated the 'Parents Section' on the school website with lots of advice and support for parents on a whole range of issues such as attendance, play, special educational needs, internet safety and much more... Please check it out 😊

The Nursery will close for the Christmas Holidays on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm as normal. Dinner will be served as normal on this day.

Primary 1 - Primary 7: School Closes for the Christmas Holidays on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 12noon. Dinner will be served earlier for those availing of Free School Meals on that day.

**School reopens for all pupils on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**



[www.goodshepherdps.net](http://www.goodshepherdps.net)

