



Castlereagh Nursery School

'Hand in Hand We Learn Together'

January 2023 Newsletter



A very warm welcome back after the Christmas break, we hope that you and your child had a wonderful, restful Christmas!

All the staff would like to thank you all for the beautiful gifts and cards we received before Christmas, they were very much appreciated by everyone.

We are so happy to welcome all the children back to school and hear all about their fantastic experiences at Christmas.

We have been enjoying using the sensory room in each of the classrooms. We have purchased lights and sensory toys using the money you raised from the welly walk.

We also received £300 funding from Power NI to further furnish and equip these rooms. A massive thank you to Braxton's mummy for organizing this.

We are all very excited about extending and enriching the children's learning experiences through these calm and nurturing spaces.

#### REMINDER

##### **Nursery Applications**

Application process for entry in September 2023 will go live on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January. If you have any friends or relatives with children born between 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 and 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020, please let them know that the closing date for applications to nursery school is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 12 noon.

**All applications will now be made online via the website**

**<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>.**

Any applications received after this date and time will be marked 'late'. Please note that all verifying documents for ALL LISTED PREFERENCES must be uploaded to the portal by Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

##### **Primary School Applications**

The same online application process is open for children who are due to start P1 in September 2023. Closing date is again 27<sup>th</sup> January. Please note that all verifying documents for ALL PREFERENCES must be uploaded to the portal by Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

**All applications will now be made online via the website**

**<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>.**



## Songs and Rhymes for January

### It's Raining It's Pouring

*It's raining, it's pouring.  
The old man is snoring.  
He bumped his head and went to bed  
And he couldn't get up in the morning*

### Open them, Shut them

Open them, shut them, open them, shut them  
Give a little clap  
Open them, shut them, open them, shut them  
Lay them in your lap  
Creep them, creep them, creep them  
Right up to your chin  
Open up your little mouth  
But do not let them in  
Roll them, roll them, roll them,  
Just like this  
Wave them, wave them, wave them,  
Then blow a little kiss

### Five Little Snowmen

*Five little snowmen standing in a line  
One, Two, Three, Four, Five  
So fine  
Melt in the sunshine with a sigh  
We'll see you next year  
Bye Bye!*

*Four little snowmen ..., etc*

### Little Jackie, Jack Frost

*Little Jackie, Jack Frost bites my nose,  
Little Jackie, Jack Frost stings my toes,  
Little Jackie, Jack Frost climbs the trees,  
Little Jackie, Jack Frost paints the leaves.  
Little Jackie, Jack Frost thinks its fun  
Knocking all the leaves down one by one.  
When the winter wind begins to blow,  
Little Jackie runs away, Ho! Ho! Ho!*



### Little Penguins

*Little penguins black and white  
On the ice, what a sight!  
See them waddle, see them glide.  
Watch them as they slip and slide.  
Little penguins black and white  
On the ice, what a sight!  
(Tune - Twinkle, Twinkle little star)*

### Five little mice skating on the ice

*Five little mice skating on the ice,  
Polly-wolly woodle all the day,  
The ice grew thin and one fell in,  
Polly-wolly woodle all the day.*

*Four little mice ....., etc.*



What are we learning this half term?



## Winter, Opposites and Chinese New Year

We will be exploring the properties of ice in the water tray and looking for 'opposites' within our environment. Looking at light and dark, hot and cold. Investigating all the signs of Winter in our garden area outside.

At the end of January we will also be learning about and celebrating Chinese New Year with the children. This will involve many new exciting activities and will compliment the curriculum area 'World Around Us'.

Our monthly planning overview will be available on the parents board in the hall. Please have a look so that you can talk to your child about the relevant topics.

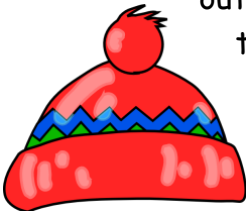
We will begin learning facts about simple 2D shapes in January. Just like the colour of the week we will be concentrating on a different shape each week. We would appreciate it if you could send a shaped item from home for display on our shape table each week.

**Please could you send in one box of tissues and 1 packet of baby wipes in January.**

### Outdoor Play

Jack Frost is out and about but it is still important for us to go outside everyday. Please ensure your child comes to nursery with a warm NAMED coat and a hat. In each room we have 26 children to get ready for

outdoor play. Try and encourage your child to put on and take off their own coat and hat independently. This means we have a longer time to explore and investigate outside. Please don't send scarves in with your child, when using the bikes and climbing these can get caught in the wheels and around the climbing frame.



### Family Photo Sessions

Cool for School photography are hosting a family photo session on Thursday 2nd February in nursery. The session will start at 5.30pm and run until 7.00pm depending on interest. Flyers will be given out next week as to how to book the sessions and payments. Sessions will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

## Confirmed Dates for your Diary

<b><u>January</u></b>	
Wednesday 4th	School Development day for staff
Thursday 5th	School Re-Opens normal time
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for New children and families due to start nursery September 2023
W/B 9th	Please bring an item in the shape of a CIRCLE
Tuesday 10th	Pre school and P1 admissions open online
W/B 16th	Please bring an item in the shape of a TRIANGLE
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Lynn the Dental Nurse visit
W/B 23rd	Shape of the week SQUARE
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Online pre school and Primary 1 admissions closes.
W/B 30 <sup>th</sup>	Shape of the week RECTANGLE
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Closing date for supporting documents for applications
<b><u>February</u></b>	
Thursday 2nd	Family Photo session beginning at 5.30pm (Further details will follow)
W/B 6 <sup>th</sup>	Shape of the week STAR
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Red and pink day, wear something red or pink instead of your uniform. Suggested donation £1 in aid of Cash For Kids NI <b>Last day of half term, school will close at 11.30am</b>
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School Development Day (school closed for children)
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School re-opens to children
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	St Patrick's Day <b>Early School closure 11.30am</b> (no dinners)

**Please check these dates each month as more activities will be added when confirmed.**