

# Castlereagh Nursery School

'Hand in Hand We Learn Together'

## November 2021 Newsletter

We hope everyone had a safe, healthy and restful half term break. All the children have now settled really well into the nursery routines and activities and we are looking forward to the busy months ahead. On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November we will be carrying out our main fund raising event of the year, 'Our Welly Walk'.

Please send a pair of welly boots to school with your child on this day.



In previous years the nursery has been able to use this money to purchase fantastic additional resources for the children to enjoy. 3 years ago the parents raised enough money to purchase 5 outdoor sheds. These will be used for many years to come. 2 years ago all the parents were able to purchase 2 additional ipads and the 'Ipad Sofa Station' in the sunroom. Last year we purchased the wigwams and the market stall for outside.

This year we would like to purchase raised planters for the children to plant vegetables in and hopefully harvest and eat in late June. These resources obviously not only benefit your child in nursery today, but also siblings or other family members that might come in future years. This is why we ask you to fully support our main fundraising event as much as you can. Without your amazing support and contributions we could not provide these fantastic resources for your child.

Attached to the newsletter you will find the Welly Walk sponsor form, please fill this in and return any money collected by **Friday 19th November**. Keep an eye out on the parents info board outside, we will update you with our total raised so far!!

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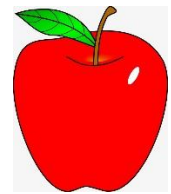
Don't forget to bring your child's sticker chart back to nursery once they have filled it up. They have been working very hard to get their stickers and when they bring it in they will receive a prize and a certificate.

## Settling in Questionnaires

This week you will receive an anonymous questionnaire in your child's cubby. It will contain questions regarding the settling in process and dinner routine. Please fill this in and return it to nursery into the boxes in the hallway. These questionnaires are very important to us and help us as a nursery to self evaluate and inform our 3 year School Development Plan.



## What we are learning in nursery



This month we will be continuing our topic of Autumn and looking at fruits and vegetables in more detail. We will be making vegetable soup and using various items in lots of different ways. We will be learning about different animals that hibernate and the topic of road safety.

## Curriculum Evening

We are holding our curriculum evening on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November from 6.30 - 7.15pm. This is an informal interactive evening where parents are given an insight into their child's day in nursery. You will learn about the routines of the nursery and how children learn best through play. Please, please if this is your first child to attend Castlereagh Nursery School try to attend this information session. (Parents only)

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## Charity Donations NI Air Ambulance Service

Funsie in a Onesie at the end of last term raised £60 and this will be donated to our charity of this year NI Air Ambulance Service.

### \*Open Enrolment\*

Please be advised, all applications for Nursery AND PRIMARY SCHOOL for September 2022 will be completed online via the Education Authority website.

The application process will open on or around Thursday 6th January and will close at the end of January. Please note that many schools' admissions criteria may change. Admissions criteria will be available on the EA website on or before Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>

### Dundonald Foodbank

We are a referring agent for the new Dundonald Foodbank Castlereagh Centre at Orangefield Presbyterian Church. These are challenging times for many people, however we are here to help. If you know of a family that is struggling, or indeed you are struggling as a family please get in touch with us. All contact will be held in the strictest confidence and we will support you in every way we can. We can issue a food voucher which will be placed in an envelope in your child's cubby, this can then be presented to the foodbank and it will give access to 1 week of food to help the family.

### Proposed Building Work



We are excited to confirm we are having building work completed in the nursery. This will comprise of a brand new pupil and visitor entrance and a new principal and secretary's office. The current office will then be repurposed as a new parent's room. We have been told by the Education Authority, the work will start shortly after Christmas and is likely to continue through to at least Easter. We will keep you informed as to any alterations to pick up and collection routines.



## Dates for your diary!

### November - December 2021

We understand how busy family life can be so we have given you details of event dates and times for this term. We hope this helps you to plan ahead.

<b>November</b>	
W/B 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Please bring something yellow
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	School re-opens at normal time
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Sonal Sports - Physical Skills
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Main fund raiser of the year 'Welly Walk' (Please bring Welly Boots)
W/B 8 <sup>th</sup> November	<b><u>Please bring something Black</u></b>
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Curriculum Evening 6.30-7.15pm
W/B 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Please bring something Orange
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Sonal Sports - Physical Skills
W/B 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Please bring in something White
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Debbie Dolittle Wildlife Show
<b>December</b>	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Mr Hullabaloo Interactive Theatre Co, winter show
W/B 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Please bring something Silver
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Jo Jingles Music and Movement
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
W/B 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Please bring something Gold
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	HO HO HO a surprise visitor for the children (SSHHHHH it's a surprise)
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Rehersal for the Nativity
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity - It's a Baby (More information to follow) 11.00 - 11.30am Lisnasharragh Primary School
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Normal Day
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Party - Non uniform School closes at 11.30am for the Christmas Holidays
Please note the change in holiday dates. We will now close on Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December rather than Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> .	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	School Staff Development Day (school closed to pupils)
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	School re-opens for children - Normal Time

All the staff thank you for your continued support.