

Annalong Primary Matters

November/December 2022

www.annalongps.com

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We have had a very busy first half-term and it's been great to return to normality in school life. We are looking forward to the rest of this term and have put in place some plans between now and the Christmas holidays.

P Chambers

Term Dates

Term Ends – Tuesday 20th December at 12 noon.
The full holiday list can be found on The Annalong PS App (Parent Area) and on the school website.

School Fund

Thank you to those parents who contributed to school funds to assist with paying for essential resources. As you are aware with budgetary constraints this income is very important to the school. If you would still like to make this voluntary contribution of £20 per family, this can be paid via the random payment section in the school app.

Parent Interviews

Thanks to all those parents who spoke on the phone with their child's teacher. We hope it was a beneficial experience. If you have any further concerns about your child at any stage, please feel free to contact the school to make an appointment to speak to the class teacher.

Woolly Hat Day took place on Friday 11th November in support of Mourne Stimulus. Thank you for your support. We were able to raise a total of £166.

It has been great to have our after-school programme running again this term.

Acti-Sport will finish for Primary 3 and for P6-7 pupils on Monday 5th December.

2-3 club will finish for P2 pupils on Thursday 8th December. This can still be booked each day for any P2 pupils at a cost of £1.50 per day.

Homework

Homework will finish on Friday 2nd December for P4-7 pupils, and on Friday 25th November for P1-3. Pupils will receive words for our Christmas performance, and we would request that pupils learn these words at home.

Diary Dates

The Book Fair will be held in the assembly hall from Monday 21st November to Wednesday 23rd November. It will be open from 8.30am-9am each morning. This is a great opportunity to purchase new reading books to encourage our pupils to read more.

Open Day will be held on **Wednesday 30th November from 2pm – 4pm**. Parents who have children wishing to either join the Nursery Unit or Primary 1 in September 2023 will have the opportunity to visit the school with their child and speak with staff to see the fantastic opportunities that we can offer here at Annalong Primary School and Nursery Unit.

Nursery Nativity will take place on Thursday 8th December at 10am in the school assembly hall. All parents are welcome to attend this performance and pupils can go home after the Nativity play.

Christmas performance – P1-7 pupils will take part in our 'ABC Nativity' in Annalong Presbyterian Church (kindly granted) on Friday 9th December at 1.30pm. Pupils can go home after the service. We are delighted that parents will once again be able to join us. There will be an opportunity to donate to our Christmas charity collection.

Panto Trip – P2-7 pupils will once again have the opportunity to return to the Grand Opera House, Belfast on Thursday 15th December for its production of 'Cinderella'. Those children not attending can be collected from school at 11.15am.

Any P1 pupil who had paid to go to the Pantomime will be fully refunded.

Nursery pupils and P1 pupils will have a fun day in school on that date. Further details will be provided by the class teachers.

School Christmas Parties – Each class will hold individual class parties and your child's teacher will inform you when this will take place.

Christmas Cards – Christmas cards can be brought into school and will be delivered by our P7 elves.

School Christmas Dinner – The school Christmas dinner will take place on Thursday 8th December for P1-7 pupils.

This will also be our **Christmas Jumper Day**, where pupils can donate £1 to our Christmas Charity collection.

Pupils do not have to wear school uniform on Monday 19th or Tuesday 20th December.

School Closes on Tuesday 20th December at 12 noon. (Nursery Unit 11.45am) There will be no dinners on that day.

Christmas Presents – All staff have agreed that anyone wanting to purchase a present for a teacher or classroom assistant can instead give a donation to be split between a local foodbank and The Friends of Annalong Primary School and Nursery Unit. This is anonymous and can be labelled Christmas donation. This is a completely voluntary donation.

Attendance

Please continue to provide a reason why your child is off using the absence form on the school app in the Parent area.

New guidance states that pupils should be off school for a minimum of 3 days after a positive Covid-19 test or symptoms but please ensure they are well enough to return to school.

If your child suffers from diarrhoea or vomiting, they should remain at home for 48 hours after their last bout of sickness.

Social Media

The school has now launched a **Facebook page** to further promote the school in the local community. This will prove to be extremely

useful. Messages on the Facebook page will not be monitored. We are currently updating our School Website as we now have all the necessary permissions for sharing content on the class pages. Please look out for information and pictures of activities in your child's class.

The **Annalong Primary School App** continues to be a great success and is now used to book activities, pay for school meals, communicate with and notify us of absences. **The App will be our main form of communication with parents.** Download the App from the App Store and use access code 11111 to log on for the first time. If you continue to have difficulties, then please contact the school. Please ensure you have notifications switched on for your child's class.

Queries/Concerns

Just to remind you that most day-to-day queries/concerns can be answered by the class teachers. If you need to see a teacher about a more serious issue, please make an appointment to see the teacher or Mr Chambers at an appropriate time.

Mr Chambers will be available after school Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and during school on Monday - Wednesday.

School Contact Details

Email: pchambers413@c2kni.net

Phone – **02843768336** or use the **Communication form on the School App.**

Please remember that we are a nut aware school. Products containing nuts or traces of nuts must not be brought to school.