



St. Ronan's Primary and Nursery School

December 2020 Newsletter



Sympathy - We extend sympathy to our chaplain and parish priest Canon Jimmy and to our teachers Mrs Fitzpatrick and Miss Quigley on the death of Michael McPhillips.

We also extend sympathy to former teacher Mrs Frances Quigley on the death of her mother, Mrs Molly Goodwin.

Christmas Holidays – School will close on Monday 21st December at 11:00am and re-open on Wednesday 6th January 2020 for the Spring Term. There will be no buses home on Mon 21st and there will be no school dinner.

Admissions 2021 – Admissions to Nursery and P1 for September 2021 open on Thursday 7th January at noon. The process will close at noon on 29th January. Applications after that will be considered as late applications. The process will take place online on the Education Authority website (www.eani.org.uk). To facilitate parents in making an application, the school can offer assistance in this process. Please call the school Office to make an appointment.

We are unable to have an Open Morning currently for any prospective parents who would like to look around the school. However, the principal will be available to take calls from parents who want to discuss their child starting school next September and about any aspect of school life.

Christmas Dinner – Thursday 3rd December. Cost is £2.60.

Christmas Jumpers - Children may wear a Christmas jumper or festive colours of red and green on Friday 11th December.

Sacraments – First Penance will take place on Thursday 29th April 2021 at 7pm.

First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 22nd May 2021 at 11am.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Friday 12th March at 6pm in Holy Cross Church, Lisnaskea. Celebrant will be Bishop Duffy.

Enrolment for Confirmation takes place on Sunday 7th February at 11:00am Mass in Holy Cross Church.

Children who are taking the Confirmation Pledge can do so on Sunday 18th April at 11:00am Mass in Holy Cross Church.

A Service of Light for Confirmation pupils will take place on Wednesday 3rd March at 7:00pm in Holy Cross Church, Lisnaskea.

Parent Meetings – Thanks to all parents who took calls for parent meetings. It was a very different format this year and not an ideal situation. Hopefully everyone got something from them. They are an important part of school life. If at any time you have concerns about your child's learning please feel free to contact your child's teacher after school. Even though we cannot have face-to-face meetings a call can still be facilitated.

Hair – Please continue to check your child's hair on a regular basis to avoid the spread of head lice.

Nativity on the Radio - We have been selected as one of only three schools in Northern Ireland to take part in a Nativity Play which will be broadcast on the Connor Phillips Show on BBC Radio Ulster. Three 'shepherd's from Mr Foy's class will have a few lines to act out. These will be recorded and aired in the near future. Once a date and time has been confirmed we will let everyone know.

Food Bank - Last year we held a very successful campaign to collect food items for the local Food Bank. In a spirit of giving this year there is a need like never before to think of those who need support most. We will leave boxes around the school for children to put in food items which can be put together and sent to the food bank before the Christmas holidays. A food item can mean so much to those who may be struggling daily to feed themselves or their children.

In what has been a very disruptive and challenging year for many, we take time to reflect and thank everyone for their continued support of our school. We have been proud of our achievements by staying open for families who needed us most during the lockdown period. Teachers, pupils and parents have adapted to online learning as challenging as it is. The school opened successfully in mid-August with new procedures and ways of working. Children have quickly become accustomed to the new school day. There have been bumps in the road with children, families and classes having to isolate as cases rose in the local area. The usual programme of plays etc has been curtailed this year but classes are working to make the most of Christmas preparations through art, song, poetry and drama.

We must all take time to come together at this Christmas and celebrate with our loved ones and cherish the memories we will all make. There will be further challenging times in the months ahead but we look forward with renewed hope that the current difficult period will pass and that life will become normal again. Until that time we need to adhere to all the guidance in place so as to keep ourselves and each other safe.

We hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and New Year and we look forward to welcoming you all back in January 2021.