



MERCY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2015



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www.mercyprimary.org.uk

Dear Parents and pupils,
Christmas is coming so quickly this year and is busy inside and outside of school. We know you have lots to do but we hope you can make a little time to join us for some of our Christmas festivities. We thank you kindly for all your support this year but remind you that staff would prefer you not to go the trouble of purchasing gifts as we do not wish to add any additional expense at what is already a demanding time for families.

All your support and generosity through this season is greatly appreciated. Your support for the Christmas Fair and activities have been tremendous!

On behalf of the Board of Governors, Principal and staff can we wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Mrs Loughran

CHRISTMAS FAIR!

Our Christmas Fair took place on Saturday 28th November. We had a great day full of fun and lucky draws. Santa himself came to visit and our hamper tombola was a great success. A huge big thank you to all the parents who volunteered to help in any way.



Mercy College are holding their Christmas fair this Saturday 5th December at 11am. They have extended an invite to you and would be delighted to see you there.

Christmas Ballot We are having our Christmas ballot which will be drawn on 18th December 2015. We wish you luck and hope the great prizes help to make it a good Christmas for the lucky winners. Tickets will be sent home And be available at the office.

Our School Carol Service will take place on Thursday 17th December at 1.30. We welcome you to join us for this special occasion at Holy Cross Church. Each class will sing a carol. Parents may complete a form to indicate if they intend to collect their children at the church or if they wish them to return to school for pick up/bus.



School

Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner for all pupils will be on Wednesday 9th December. The cost for those pupils who pay will be £2.50.

Pantomime on Thursday!

It is a busy day as the pupils are off to the Lyric Theatre to see "Little Red Riding Hood and the Big Bad Wolf." We will leave the school in the morning and return for lunch. School finishes at 2pm - a bus will be provided.

Open Night!

Our school open Night is on Thursday 3rd December from 6.30-8pm. You are all welcome if you wish to come along for a visit and tour of our school.

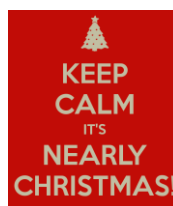
P1 application forms will be available on the night and at the office for any parents or families who have a child starting school in September 2016. Some of our pupils and parents will be helping out on the night.



Our 100 club draw is on Friday 11th December it will be drawn at the P1 & P2 show.

The draw takes place on Friday 11th December!

Winners for November –



£250 Kerri Ann Owens
£100 Monica Kearney
£50 Brian O'Rourke
£50 Rosemary McCloskey
£50 Michelle Fennell

Well done everyone!

COMPETITION WINNERS!

We had great news this week one of our P4 pupils has come first in her gymnastics competition! We are very proud of this achievement!



Coffee Morning and thank you for all our parent volunteers is on Wednesday 16th December at 11am. All parent volunteers are welcome to join us so we can show our appreciation for all your help.



Nativity Our P1 & P2 Christmas Shows will be on Friday 11th December at 10am. The hall space is limited so two tickets will be allocated to each child. After this allocation extra tickets will be available at the office but on a first come first serve basis. We would recommend arriving early to secure your seat.

Tickets will be sent home on Monday

WINTER WEATHER & SCHOOL CLOSURES



Any exceptional closures due to bad weather will be notified on our website, school face book page and BBC NI.

Parents are requested to make sure that all contact details are up to date in case of

boiler failure or closure during the day.

OUR TEXT SERVICE ONLY WORKS WHEN YOU KEEP US INFORMED OF CURRENT PHONE NUMBERS.

Breakfast Club

Parents are asked not to drop children off before 8am each morning. It has been reported that children have been dropped off and left unattended. We also ask for child protection that parents hand children off at the canteen door to the supervisor.

CONFIRMATION 2016

Confirmation will be celebrated on Wednesday 27th January 2016 at Holy Cross Church. Further details will be provided at the start of the new year.



School Starting Time.

After consultation with parents and pupils we have agreed to change our starting times to 9.05 am. In January. The school lunch hour will be 5 minutes longer. Our buses arrive each day on-time for school. This has made it easier to see pupils who are late each day.

Attendance Policy:

Parents are reminded that if a child is absent for any reason that they should contact the school and report the reason for the absence. Attendance Matters. Children need to be in school every day unless they are unwell and not fit to be here. phone calls will be made to home if a reason isn't provided for an absence.

SANTA's Visit

Santa will be visiting school on Friday the 5th December for any child who missed Santa at our Christmas fair. A note was sent home for parents to indicate if they wished to participate in this.

Christmas Celebration Day

Friday 18th December pupils is our Christmas Celebration Day. Pupils may wear ordinary clothes or Christmas jumpers. A special treat will take place for all our pupils.

Communication with Parents

As a school we do our very best to communicate as much as possible to parents. We send notes, text messages and newsletters, and often parents say they didn't know about something. Please register with our school **facebook** page and look at our **Website** to keep ahead of school events.

Dates for Your Diary



Advent is here.

**Thur 3rd Dec 15 Whole School Pantomime
Early Finish at 2pm**

3rd Dec 15 - SCHOOL OPEN NIGHT 6.30-8pm

**Tues 8th Dec 15 – Feast of the Immaculate
Conception. P4-P7 Mass**

Wed 9th Dec 15 - School Christmas Dinner

-Water Bus Visit to school
P5,P6,P7

**Thur 10 Dec 15 - P1/2 Play (dress rehearsal for
KS2 and nursery children.)**

Fri 11th Dec 15 - P1 & 2 Play @10 am

**Mon 14th Dec - P5 & P6 Carol Party at Water
Front Hall**

**Thur 17th Dec - 1.30 pm – Carol Service whole
school at Holy Cross Church.**

**17th & 18th Dec - Choir visit to local Nursery
Schools, Tesco, Allan and Overy and Nursing
Homes.**

18th Dec - Christmas Dress Up Day & Movie.

**SCHOOL CLOSSES Mon 21st December at 11am
No Lunches or Dinners or Buses on this day!**

**School Re opens on Wednesday 6th January
2016**