



# MERCY NEWSLETTER

## DECEMBER 2016



Tel: 028 90391670  
www.mercyprimary.org.uk

Dear Parents and pupils,  
My December newsletter is running late in this busy month! We have the fair and our open day over but we hope you can make a little time to join us for some of our other Christmas festivities this week.  
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.

We wish to congratulate Mrs Jackman on the birth of her baby girl, and to wish her a happy Christmas! Congratulations also to Miss Costello who got married this term and who is now known as Mrs Campbell!

*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 3<sup>rd</sup> December. 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 or helped in any way.



**Our School Carol Service** will take place on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm. **We welcome all of you to join us for this special occasion at Holy Cross Church.**

Each class will sing a carol as part of the Christmas Story. 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 & Price Rise.**

Christmas dinner for all pupils will be on Thursday 8th December. The cost for those pupils who pay will be £2.50.

Unfortunately the EA have informed us that

**The cost of dinner is set to rise in January to £2.55**

### **Pantomime!**

We had a fun filled morning at the Waterfront hall when we went to see the pantomime of Aladdin. It was a great day out and thoroughly enjoyed by staff and pupils alike.



### **Open Day!**

Our Open day was a great success. Many parents and nursery girls came to our school to have a visit and tour around. Remember application forms need to be returned before January 20<sup>th</sup> 2017. Places are limited so get your forms in early.



### **Our 100 club draw is on Monday 19th December.**

Please make sure you have paid up before then - if your number is unpaid and drawn it will be re-drawn. We are having our draw bi-monthly so the next draw won't be until February 2017. There are still a few limited numbers available.



### **Coffee Morning and thank you for all our parent volunteers is on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 11am. All parent**

**volunteers are welcome to join us so we can show our appreciation for all your help.**

### **Stormont Reception:**

Mrs Loughran was delighted to go to Stormont on behalf of our school on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December to receive an certificate from Education Minister Peter Weir congratulating Mercy Primary on achieving the highest levels for overall effectiveness on its EtI inspection.

We know our school has very high standards but it was great to get the public recognition it deserves.



**Nativity Our P1 & P2 Christmas Shows will be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. As usual we ask you to have patience and not to leave in the middle of the show.**

**A ballot will be drawn at each show.**

**Lighting:**

At long last work has begun on our new outdoor lighting. Contractors will be working in and around the school until March 17. We ask parents to keep parking outside of school grounds and to keep clear of work vans. Contractors will all wear hi-visibility vests and identification.

**Class awards:**

We are delighted that P5 Mrs Cush and P3 Mrs Campbell and their classes are off to the cinema on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. This is the class award for collecting the most class tokens this term. Well done to both classes. We hope they have a wonderful day!

**CONFIRMATION 2017**

**Confirmation will be celebrated on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at Holy Cross Church. Further details will be provided at the start of the new year.**



**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.

**End of Clubs**

**After schools/homework club will finish on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016. It will resume in the new year 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017.**

**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.



**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

**Dates for Your Diary**



**Advent is here.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 16 -School Fair**

**Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 16 – Mass of the Starving Holy Cross Church**

**Wed 7<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas crafts with parents.**

**Thur 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 16 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception. P4-P7 Mass**

**Thur 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 16 - School Christmas Dinner**

**Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 16 - Fire Service Visit**

**Tues 13th Dec 16 – P1 & 2 Play @11 am**

**Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 16 – P1 & 2 Play @11 am**

**Thur 15<sup>th</sup> Dec - Fisca Flax Trust Choir Competition Belfast City Hall**

**Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Dec - 1.pm – Carol Service whole school at Holy Cross Church.**

**Mon 19<sup>th</sup> December - P6 To Ulster Hall Carol Service**

**Tues 20<sup>th</sup> December – P5 Mrs Cush P3 Mrs Campbell trip to cinema.**

**SCHOOL CLOSSES Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 11am**  
**No Breakfast/ Lunches/ Dinners or Buses on this day!**

**School Re opens on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

*Merry Christmas 2016*