

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all. It has been lovely to welcome all our girls back to school after a very restful break.

The weather has been mild so far but it seems the ice and snow may not be far away, please do make sure your telephone numbers are up to date so that if we need to close in the middle of the day or cannot open one morning due to snow/emergency we want to be sure to be able to contact you directly.

We have many exciting things happening in the coming term and Primary Seven have a particularly busy few weeks getting ready for our Parish celebration of Confirmation.

Best Wishes, Mrs Loughran

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS IN OUR GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW

Our draw was held on 18 December 2015. It was a great success many thanks to local businesses for their generosity.

1st Prize-£ 50 Toys R Us Voucher

Colm Lavery

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize- £50 McAufields Meat Voucher

Robin Whelan - donated to SVDP

3rd prize- 14-15lb Turkey

Martina Hunter

4<sup>th</sup> Prize- Hilton Templepatrick 4 Ball Voucher

Steven O Reilly

5<sup>th</sup> Prize- Snowglow Elsa Doll

Maggie Rose

6<sup>th</sup> Prize- Carvery Voucher Lansdowne Hotel

Grainne Loughlin

We raised additional funds for school during our fair and ballot. This will be used to buy some new numeracy resources for classrooms and continue to supplement buses for swimming and educational visits this year. We are very grateful for your support.

#### Friends of Mercy - PTA

Our 100 Club has raised £1,500 so far for play equipment. Come along to our Friends of Mercy Meeting on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm if you can help with our fundraising activities or school disco/movie night.



Congratulations to all our P1&P2 pupils for their wonderful performances in the **Christmas Nativity Plays** and to P1-7 for the Christmas Carol Service in Holy Cross Church Check out the web site for more photos.

#### **POST PRIMARY OPEN EVENINGS**

Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils should consider attending the post primary open days/nights that are happening this month. Some of the post primary schools have been in to talk with our P7 girls about their schools.

Mercy College - 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016 Little Flower - 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016 St Dominics - 9<sup>th</sup> January 2016 Fortwillliam - 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2016

#### Attendance Awards!



Last week pupils received their 100% attendance awards for the month of December and Mr Trainor gave out 100% attendance awards for the whole first term. 61 pupils in total received an award.

Can we please remind parents that if a child is absent for any reason that parents must phone the school or send in a note on return so we can record it on our computer system.

#### **After Schools Clubs**

Our range of afterschool clubs begins again this term, Drumming with The Gathering Drum, Irish dancing, Gymnastics, Spanish, Drama, Sewing Club, Boxfit, Netball, ICT and Homework club.

Our Parent activities will resume later in the term with computer & I-pad activities.

#### Open Night!

We held a very successful and busy open night



on the 3<sup>th</sup> December when we welcomed new faces and old friends to our school. Reminder: P1 Applications for September 2016 are due in on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January.

# Many Thanks to our generous parents and sponsors, and all who contributed towards our Christmas Fair:

Co-op Cliftonville Road

Tesco,

Black Beauty,

City Sightseeing Tours,

Rooneys Chemist,

Ten Square,

McAufield's butchers,

Opera Pizzeria,

Stanley's butchers,

Bellevue Arms,

Hudson's pizza,

Colour Keys Hairdresser,

Spar Ardoyne- Subway,

Nando's, Bedford Street,

Paddy's barbers,

Fishbook, Ligoniel,

Crumlin Star Social Club,

Fusco's Ice Cream,

Lansdowne Hotel,

Tiny Togs,

Mr. & Mrs. Herron,

Mr. Burnside,

Argento Jewellers,

Hilton Templepatrick,

Turkish barbers.

Special thanks to our Tuesday craft group for their support!

#### **Roots of Empathy**

Our P5 pupils have been taking part in the Roots of Empathy Programme, A Canadian programme to develop empathy. We have visits from baby Harriet and we learn so much about how babies communicate.

### **Dates for Your Diary**

18<sup>th</sup> January - After School Clubs begin. 19<sup>th</sup> January - (Tues) **P7 Retreat Holy** Cross Church

22nd January (Fri) - **P7 Service of light** 2.15 pm

23<sup>rd</sup> January - **P4** Do This in Memory of Me Mass @ Holy Cross Church 7pm.

(Different date than previously given)

27<sup>th</sup> January -(Wed) - Confirmation P7 11am

27<sup>th</sup> January -Roots of Empathy visit to P5.

28<sup>th</sup> January - P5-P7 Sue and the Litter Lab Visit.

2<sup>nd</sup> February Peace Proms workshop P6&7 Choir

3<sup>rd</sup> February Sing Out concert P5 & P6 8pm Venue to be confirmed.

3<sup>rd</sup> February (Wed) - Grandparents Day

11<sup>th</sup> February - Red Heart Day and Valentines Disco

12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> February Mid Term
School Closed (Fri-Tues)

17<sup>th</sup> March (Thur) St Patrick's Day School closed