

# WINDSOR HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents,



## P1 Admission for 2022

Information regarding enrolment to primary school will be available on the EA website at <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions> just before the Christmas holidays. The P1 online procedure opens on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and closes on 28 January 2022 at 12noon (GMT). As soon as further Department of Education guidance becomes available we will inform parents. While digital applications are preferred, support is available for everyone who needs it with paper applications – just contact the office and Miss McKane will call you back. P1 applications should be made for children whose 4<sup>th</sup> birthday falls on or before 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018. Unfortunately, we are unable to invite prospective parents to see around school but appointments can be made, by calling the office to speak to the Principal or to visit the school after hours by appointment. We would also encourage you to have a look at our school website which will provide a flavour of the excellent resources and opportunities available in our school.

## CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

Unfortunately, once again this year Christmas, as we have traditionally known it is not possible due to Covid Restrictions, but we still want our children to enjoy as much of the usual excitement as possible. We do not want Covid to disrupt Santa's deliveries on Christmas Eve, so to keep him safe and well, given how hard everyone is working, we hope that he will be able to call into the school at some stage for a socially distanced visit before the end of term.

### Santa's Daily Mile

Children can wear their Christmas Jumpers for the Santa Daily Mile on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Hopefully the weather will be kind and we will get outside in our Christmas Jumpers and get ourselves into the Christmas Spirit early.



### Christmas Post

If children wish to post Christmas cards to their classmates, they can do so in a **class post box** from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Post will be sorted and distributed in the class. Cards should only be written for pupils in their own class.

### Class Christmas Parties

Each class will arrange their own Christmas party which will take place in the assembly hall. Teachers will inform parents directly of the date of their class party. Pupils may wear their party clothes to school that day and school will provide juice and some sweets / treats to enjoy at the party. Children should not bring other party food into school.

### Christmas Jumper Day

We are inviting everyone to wear their Christmas jumpers on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December. A donation of a **non-perishable item of food for the Newry Larder Foodbank** would be appreciated on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December. These will be collected at the bottom of the stairs at the entrance door.



### Christmas Performances

Each class is providing a short piece of festively themed entertainment via the **class pages** on the school website. Performances will be approximately 5 minutes and it is planned that these will go 'live' during the week beginning **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December**. While we know this does not replace a normal performance, it gives the children the opportunity to have the experience of preparing together and by using the website, they can potentially reach a 'wider audience' with their talents.

### Christmas Dinner

This year's school Christmas dinner will be served on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December**. It is important that Christmas Dinner is booked and paid for in advance.



### PTA

Unfortunately, our PTA have been unable to meet to date, hopefully we will be able to resume activities later in the year.



### Christmas Presents

The staff plan to continue to donate money to charity in lieu of buying individual presents for the children this year. The charity chosen to benefit is Newry Hospice. We also invite Parents to contribute to this very worthy cause in lieu of presents for staff, donations can be sent into school in an envelope at any time between now and the end of term.

### CEF Christmas Assembly

Pre-Covid we had a Good News Club in school on Friday afternoons for P4 – P7 pupils from 3:00 – 3:45pm. All being well it is planned at this stage that we will restart Good News Club in the new year.

David Crutchley, the Newry and Mourne Child Evangelism Fellowship Coordinator will be visiting school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December and will share the Christmas Story with groups of classes, socially distanced in the assembly hall.

Further details about Good News Club will be issued in the New Year.

### End of Term

School will end from 11:30am on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December**. There will be no dinners served that day.

There is no bus to Shandon Park. Please ensure that your child is aware of arrangements for going home from school at the end of term.

Staggered finishing times: SP1 11:30am, P1 11:45am, P2 11:50am, P3 & P4 12:00 noon, P4/5 & P6 12:05, P5/P6 12:10 followed by P7 with families leaving with their youngest sibling.

### COVID Reminder.

This time last year I don't think we really expected to be looking into Christmas 2021 will Covid still impacting so much of our daily routine, and continuing to limit school activities, but unfortunately infection rates remain high and the health and safety of our pupils and staff comes first. Our consistent groups, cleaning routines etc. are now firmly embedded into school routine. Thankfully the children however see this as the new norm – their resilience and adaptability continues to inspire us all and we continue to move forward believing we have come through the worst of it and trusting that we can get back to normality soon. I also acknowledge the outstanding support I have from our whole staff team, particularly our caretaker Sammy, who have worked together so cordially to keep school as safe as we can. We are also grateful to parents for your continued co-operation and support. In the lead up to Christmas please continue to be vigilant.

### **Do not sent your child to school if they are unwell.**

If they have any covid symptoms:

- High Temperature, New / Persistent Cough, Loss of taste or smell – **Stay at home, isolate and book a test.**  
<https://covid-19.hscni.net/testing>
- Inform school immediately and advise us of the result as soon as possible.
- Pupils do not return until symptoms have gone for at least 48 hours – even if the test result was negative.
- If children are isolating at the direction of the Public Health Agency, please contact the office. School work will be made available to minimize the impact on their learning during the isolation period.

### New Term

School reopens for all pupils on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

As a staff we thank you all for your continued support and wish all pupils, parents and friends of the school a very Happy Christmas and healthy New Year.

A copy of this letter and all other correspondence sent home will be placed on the School website @ <https://www.windsorhillps.co.uk/newsletters-and-letters-for-parents/>

Yours faithfully

I. McKane  
Principal

