

Dear Parent,

It's hard to believe how quickly Christmas is approaching. It's been a busy term so far and the next few weeks are extremely busy!! Apart from our newsletter, please remember to keep up-to-date via our website www.dromoroadps.com and if you have not downloaded the school app we would encourage you to do so. Check out the new items that are put on the website every few days.

School Christmas Dinner

This year the children's Christmas Dinner will be on Friday 10th December. Rather than a traditional Christmas dinner, the children will get a 'Christmas Party Box'. Pupils can wear non-uniform on this day and we encourage the pupils to get in the mood by wearing a Christmas jumper.



Anti-Bullying Week

The week beginning the 15th November marked Anti-Bullying Week & we held an Odd Sock Day. The theme this year was 'One Kind Word' and the children have displayed many kind words and acts during the week. Y6/7 delivered a kindness pack to each teacher and the School Council kindly delivered kindness buns to everyone in the school. A big thank you to Y6/7 for also taking assembly on Friday and reminding us of the steps we can take if we are concerned about bullying behaviour.



**New Enrolment Update **

The EA Citizen Portal for online admission applications to P1 for September 2022 will open on Monday 10th January 2022 and close punctually on Friday 28th January at 12 noon. Further guidance and the school's admission criteria can be accessed from 18th December at

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions/applying-for-a-school-place>

Please feel free to contact Mrs McGrath if you have any queries about the admission process. Please also let other parents know if they have children of pre-school age and want to see around the school.

Y1 Balanceability

Balanceability starts on Mon 29th November with Mrs Cumming. This programme develops confidence, spatial awareness, dynamic balance and the skills to ride a bicycle without stabilisers. Using balance bikes and other equipment, the sessions are constructed around games, challenges and new experiences.



School Christmas Service

As the Executive is still currently allowing gatherings to take place, we plan to organise a Christmas service for parents in mid-December. Two performances will take place to reduce the numbers in the hall. P2/3 and P6/7 parents will be invited to attend on Wednesday 15th at 9.30am and P1 and P4/5 parents can attend on Thursday 16th December at 9.30am. We would ask parents to wear face coverings when attending and to be mindful of social distancing.

SHINE BACK TO FRONT DAY

We had a fabulous day on Friday 15th October raising money for Shine. We'd like to thank the whole school community for donating so generously, raising £267.32.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER AND SWEET JAR APPEAL

The School Council hope to make up a Christmas Hamper to raffle. We will send home a letter to parents requesting one item for the hamper or sweets for a 'Guess the Sweets' competition. If you can contribute, we would kindly ask that items are in by Monday 6th December. Raffle tickets for the hamper will go on sale on Monday 6th December and the Guess the Sweets competition will commence on Wednesday 8th December.



Christmas Disco

The children have requested a Christmas Disco in the school. We hope to run this on Fri 17th December from 6.30-8pm to raise school funds. There will be a £1.50 entry and a tuck shop will be available. If any parent is able to help out please contact Mrs McParland in the office (41752656) and your name will be passed to the PTA.



Y6/7 Swimming Lessons

Y6/7 thoroughly enjoyed their sessions of swimming in Newry Pool, it was great to get back to a bit of normality! The coaches encouraged the pupils to develop different strokes, move up and down the pool with increasing confidence and behave safely in the pool.

We hope that Y4/5 will commence their swimming lessons in the spring time.



Anti-Bullying Poster POSTER COMPETITION

We had a poster competition in school during Anti-Bullying week. The children were challenged to design a poster on the theme of 'One Kind Word'. We had some fantastic entrants and the winners who got a selection box & art pack were:

Y1 Laura
Y2/3 Daniele
Y4/5 Ava S-F
Y6/7 Leah



Y4/5 Navan Centre Trip

On Tuesday 14th September, Y4/5 enjoyed a fabulous trip to the Navan Centre in Armagh as part of their Viking topic. During school lessons they had made viking treats. More pictures on our school website.

On Fri 3rd December – Christmas Run. For the daily mile kids should dress in red or wear Christmas jumpers etc. Donations please for the Childrens' Hospice. Thank You.

Y4/5 Fire Safety Talk

Y4/5 enjoyed an informative visit from the Fire Service. Maney & JJ reminded us how to keep safe and helped us all become more fire aware. Mrs McAteer was even tasked with trying on the uniform. Thanks again to the Fire Service and our local firemen. Photos on website.



Heritage Event at Warrenpoint Park for Y6/7



Y4-7 Accelerated Reader Treats

Achieve 10 stars and select from prizes from our lucky dip: For example - £5, Hot Chocolate, Homework Pass, Wear own clothes.

Keep reading kids, if you achieve your target you will be invited to the Pizza Party on Mon 20th December.

Well done to Katelyn, Year 6 who achieved the 1-million-word prize. Her prize was lunch delivered from Country Fried.

Car Park

We appreciate your co-operation with our ongoing traffic management issue. Please be mindful that if the car park is busy, a staff member will close the gates to prevent access. We would ask you to be patient whilst we try to clear the car park. If you are able to park and walk, we would encourage you to do so.

DECEMBER DIARY DATES

Fri 3rd Dec Christmas Run (wear red or Christmas jumper/hat)
Fri 10th Dec School Christmas Dinner (Christmas Jumper/hat Day)
Wed 15th Dec 9.30am Y2/3 & Y6/7 Christmas Service
Thurs 16th Dec 9.30am Y1 & Y4/5 Christmas Service
Fri 17th Dec 6.30-8pm Disco £1.50 admission
Tues 21st Dec – Class Fun Day (own clothes)
Wed 22nd Dec -School closes at 12 noon (non uniform day)
Wed 5th January 2022 – Staff Only
Thursday 6th January 2022 –School reopens for Spring Term
We will monitor transmission rates in December in deciding whether events can occur.



The Governors and staff at Dromore Road Primary School would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year