



MERCY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2018



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www.mercyprimary.org.uk

Dear Parents and pupils,

We have a busy winter term ahead so don't forget to keep up to date with events on our website and facebook pages. We know you are enjoying our Accelerated Reading from all the feedback given at the parent teacher meetings. It was lovely to see so many of you at school.

Financially we, like all schools, have challenging times ahead and we rely on your continued support as we organise events and activities for parents and families. We always give to charity at Christmas time but we also do need to raise funds for new Power Maths books this year for our own children. We are very disappointed that due to lack of support from the canteen, Big Breakfast with Santa cannot go ahead as last year, however we hopefully will raise funds through a Night Before Christmas evening with Santa on 20th December and Christmas plate making activities which we will encourage you to help make and buy your child's plate. We hope you can support us as best you can. All families will be entered for our Christmas Hamper Draws.

Best Wishes

Mrs Loughran

Forest School

We are now officially a forest school. What does that mean?



Mrs Bullock has been working alongside the other teachers to look at how we can develop our outdoor classrooms for learning. Mrs Bullock has been accredited with OCN Level 3 Leadership in Forest Schools. We have our

beautiful surroundings and we use them to teach all areas of the curriculum making our lessons exciting and interesting.



On Friday 9th November Beverly came to Assembly to award us our Sustrans School Bronze award for sustainable travel. Well done everyone. We would

love to get a bicycle parking bay for school so watch this space!

Thanksgiving Thursday (22nd November)

We are asking children to come to school in ordinary clothes (Dress Down Day and instead of bringing in £1 we are going to ask each family to bring in an item to make up our luxury hampers for the Christmas Draw and ballots. Items could be:

- Mince pies
- Chocolates
- Biscuits
- Pudding
- Cakes
- Crackers
- Christmas goods

(We are happy to accept wine/mulled wine if delivered by adults but this **must not** be sent in to school with children.)

School Pantomime

Our Pantomime will be taking place on Wednesday 12th December. **Beauty and the Beast.**

We remind all parents to get the deposit of £6 paid and the remaining £6 is due by the end of November. We will only be booking the tickets paid for. There will be a facility for pupils who haven't paid to remain in school on that day.

Primary 4 visit to see the Belfast Giants

As a special treat for our Primary 4 girls we will be going to The Giants on Friday 23rd November at 3pm
What a treat for all their hard work and good attendance this term.

Primary 4 Music Morning

Mr McKermott and his P4 class performed on Monday 12th November at Belfast City School of Music. They sang a selection of songs and performed their own composition. Everyone was highly impressed! Well done P4! Photos to follow!

Early Closure

 **We will be closing at 12.30 on Thursday the 29th November to facilitate Open Day for our new pupils and parents. Some groups of children will be asked to stay behind and help present activities. They will receive a permission note from their teachers.**



Open Day!

Our school open Day is on Thursday 29th November 2018. 1-3pm
The application process has changed this year and parents will need to apply on the EA website. Details will be given out at open day and a catch up session will take place in January.



Pupil Information Forms: Please make sure you have completed a permission form for your child including relevant contact details. Thank you

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.

T'was The Night before Christmas (Holidays!)



Children will be invited to school for the evening on Thursday 20th December for a story and movie evening with hot chocolate. (Pyjamas and Pillows Essential!) We hope a special visitor will arrive.
This is our school Christmas Fundraiser this year and we value your support from buying tickets to bringing your child along. All tickets purchased will be entered into a free draw for a Hamper. Parents do not need to stay so can pop home to have 3 hours peace or some Christmas shopping time! **£4.00 per child** (2 children £7.00, 3 children £10)

After School activities this term:

Monday Every Week	Tuesday Every Week	Wednesday Every Week	Thursday Every Week	Friday Every Week
Homework Club 3-4pm P1-7	Homework Club 3-4pm P1-7	Homework Club 3-4pm P1-7	Homework Club 3-4pm P1-7	Film Club 2-3pm P3-7
	Gymnastics 2-3pm P1-3 Gymnastics 3-4pm P4-7	Art Attack 2-3pm P1-3 Art Attack 3-4pm P4-7		
	Ready to Learn 1:45-2:45 P3	Ready to Learn 1:45-2:45 P3	Ready to Learn 1:45-2:45 P3	

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

Volunteers Needed!

We need parent volunteers on Thursday 29th to help with Open Day. Please come along to a meeting this **Monday 19th November at 9.15am.** Photocopying/ painting / wrapping hampers all skills required.



REMINDER – Our school uniform includes a navy school coat. Children are free to wear hats and scarfs of colours but our school coat **must** be navy.

Dates for Your Diary

9th Nov - Ditch the dark

12th November P4 Music Makers

14th November Time to Code - P4 Mrs McA

16th November P4 Assembly Mr McKermott

19th November - Parent Plate making session

22nd November - Thanksgiving Thursday

23rd Nov - P7 visit Mercy College
- P4 Trip Giants

29th Nov Open Day

- **Early Closure 12.30pm**

4th Dec - Mass of Starving 7pm

6th December Fisca Choir Competition

7th Dec - School Christmas Dinner

12th Dec - School Pantomime at Waterfront

14th Dec - FISCA Choir Competition

14th Dec - Carol Service in Church 1pm

17th Dec - visit to nursery P1

18th /19thDec- P1/2 Christmas Play TBC

20th Dec - The Night Before Christmas