

Parent Information Sheet

DECEMBER 2019



Please find below useful information and reminders for the month of
DECEMBER 2019.

Saint Vincent De Paul Hampers

Thank you all so much! As always, your generosity to our charity appeals knows no bounds. Pupils in years 5, 6 and 7 are putting together food hampers for needy families in our own community.

Your response has been overwhelming. However, if you still wish to donate any non-perishable food items, please forward to your class hamper by Wednesday 11th December. Saint Vincent De Paul will collect the hampers on Friday 13th December 2019



Year 1 Christmas Nativity Shows

P.1C Mrs Ntareme Fri 13th Dec at 9.30 – Assembly Hall

P.1B Mrs McManus Mon 16th Dec at 9.30 – Assembly Hall

P.1A Mrs McLaughlin Tue 17th Dec at 9.30 – Assembly Hall

Children will be free to go home with a family member following the Show.

Family and friends are all very welcome to come along and enjoy this wonderful show! (No tickets required for this show.)

*Please note – siblings will have watched the dress rehearsal of these shows and therefore will remain in class during parent performance.



Flu Vaccinations

On Friday 6th December all children (with parental permission) will be vaccinated against flu. Any change in circumstances should be notified immediately to the school nurse – 94471009.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS DATES AND ARRANGEMENTS

Non-uniform and half day for Christmas holidays on Friday 20th Dec – **SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 12pm**, there will be **NO** breakfast club, **NO** tuck or lunches. **PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE SCHOOL BUS SERVICE AT 12pm FRIDAY 20th DECEMBER.** Extra parking in playground on Friday 20th December 2019.

Children return to school on Monday 6th January 2020!

Wishing you all a Happy & Peaceful Christmas!



P.7 Panto – Beauty & The Beast

P.7 Children will attend “Beauty & The Beast” in the Grand Opera House Belfast, on Tuesday 3rd December. The children will have early lunch and leave school at 12.30. They will return to school for collection at approx. 4.45p.m.

Wednesday 4th Dec – Children’s Christmas Dinner

All children will be invited to attend school Christmas Dinner. A fantastic celebration in our school. This takes place on 4th Dec. The cost for Christmas Dinner is £2.60, **paid on the day at the canteen** and those entitled to free meals use their pass as normal.

Please do not send dinner money in advance.

Christmas Gift

This year we will have our annual Christmas Jumper Day on 19th December. We are giving notice as it is now our tradition to make a small donation on Christmas Jumper Day INSTEAD OF BUYING school staff a Christmas gift. **Please do not buy Christmas gifts – thanks.**

Instead, children will receive - nearer the time, a small donation envelope. This year, these donations will be divided between our first term charity. (Cancer Fund for Children) and school funds. Any donations (via envelope instead of staff gift) will be gratefully received. As always, thank you for your generosity.

Christmas Party & Jumper Day

Christmas Party Day and Christmas Jumper Day will take place on Thurs 19th Dec in all classes – children can bring a small treat and drink to school with them for the party. (There will be normal school dinners/lunches on this day).



School and Parish Carol Service

All family members are invited to attend the Parish Carol Service on Mon 16th Dec at 7pm in St. Comgall’s Church. This evening will be led by the children of our school from Years 4 and includes Choir and Orchestra. It is always a beautiful evening. All Year 4 – 7 children should be seated in Church by 6.45pm. The carol service is scheduled to be over by 7.30pm approx. We hope you can attend to support the children in Christmas preparation.

P.3 Panto

Year 3 will be attending the local Panto, 'Cinderella' in The Old Courthouse, Antrim, on Friday 13th December at 10 a.m.

Possible Adverse Weather Conditions

In advance of possible adverse weather conditions over the next few months, please be aware of the following:

- 1) Parents will be informed by text and school website if it is necessary to close the school due to adverse weather. These decisions are not taken lightly and are done so via a risk assessment for the health and safety of the whole school community – including the inability to staff the school if teachers cannot travel to Antrim.
- 2) If you are worried about bus transport on days where weather is bad, but school is open, Please contact Translink Antrim directly, who can tell you if buses are operational on that Day. The number is 028 94 428729.

Admissions for P.1 – Sept 2020

New Digital Admissions Information

- Parent Portal. 19th December - Admissions Criteria will be published on www.eani.org.uk
- Applications can be made from 12noon on Wednesday 7th January 2020.
- Applications Close @ 12 noon on 30th January 2020.

Safeguarding Update

Thank you to everyone for your commitment to keeping our children safe. Our new moving procedures are working really well!! Children are happy coming into school and parents are happy getting away quickly!

P.1 Change Over:- P.1 parents, during December, we would advise you to begin the process of allowing your child to walk to class a few days a week by themselves. This will give them opportunity to practice this before the changeover to being dropped at the gate after the Christmas holidays. We will continue to talk to the children in school about it.

To be honest – most of them are ready to be 'big boys and girls' at this stage and they want it themselves. All will be well. Thank you again for your support in the matter

Sacramental Information for Parents

Parents of children who are in sacramental classes.

Please note the dates of the sacramental meetings, services and sacraments relating to your child. This information has been agreed at Parish level, we hope you find it useful to have the dates this early in the year.

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| <p>P3</p> | <p>Thurs 16th Jan '20</p> <p>Sun 2nd Feb '20</p> <p>Sun 2nd Feb '20</p> <p>THUR 26TH MAR 2020</p> | <p>Penance Parent Meeting – 6.30pm (Parents Only)</p> <p>Enrolment Service for SACRAMENT OF FIRST PENANCE - P.3B & P.3C – 9.00am Mass</p> <p>Enrolment Service for SACRAMENT OF FIRST PENANCE - P.3A - 12 noon Mass</p> <p>SACRAMENT OF FIRST PENANCE – 1.30PM</p> | <p>St Joseph's Parish Centre</p> <p>St Comgall's Church</p> <p>St Comgall's Church</p> <p>St Comgall's Church</p> |
| <p>P4</p> | <p>SAT 2ND MAY '20</p> <p>SUN 14TH JUN '20</p> | <p>SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION – 11AM</p> <p>Corpus Christi</p> <p>“Do this in Memory” Masses will take place every First Sunday of the Month</p> | <p>St Comgall's Church</p> |
| <p>P7</p> | <p>Thur 23rd Jan '20</p> <p>Sun 9th Feb '20</p> <p>Sun 9th Feb '20</p> | <p>Confirmation parent meeting - 6.30pm (Parents only)</p> <p>Service of Commitment - P.7A & 7C - at 9.00am Mass (Children and families.)</p> <p>Service of Commitment - P.7B - at 12 noon Mass (Children and families.)</p> <p>The Service of Light and SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION dates will be forwarded to parents as soon as the Parish is made aware of them from the Bishop's office. This normally happens late in Term 1 (Nov/Dec).</p> | <p>St Joseph's Parish Centre</p> <p>St Comgall's Church</p> <p>St Comgall's Church</p> |

That time of year again when bugs and germs are widespread. If your child is or has been unwell and you are wondering when they can return to school. Check out our handy guide below! If concerned speak to your Pharmacist or GP. More at <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/conditions/childhood-illnesses>

Do I need to keep my child off school?



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| Chicken Pox Until all spots have crusted over | Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed | Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode | Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed | Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed | Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics |
| Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash | Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling | Scabies Until after first treatment | Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics | Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed | Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics |
| | Flu Until recovered | Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed | Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed | Tonsillitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed | |