



# EBRINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

## December 2018 Newsletter

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the first term of this academic year. For me, it has been an extremely busy and rewarding introduction to Ebrington. As we get fully into the festive swing, I want to outline the next few events, over the coming weeks for parents.

### Operation Christmas Child

A huge 'THANK YOU' shout out for all the support with our shoebox appeal in school. Through collections, we managed to prepare and pack over eighty boxes, as well as sending lots of additional items to supplement other boxes being packed in the Limavady OCC Centre. Our non-uniform day allowed us to send on £200 to help with the transportation costs of the boxes.

### Christmas Concerts

The last few weeks have seen pupils be very busy in rehearsing for the upcoming Christmas concerts in school. I am sure all who attend will really enjoy what they see and hear. Due to a number of our pupils without photographic consent, and to comply with new GDPR regulations, **there will be no permitted photography/ videography by visitors during the concerts.** Instead, staff will take photographs during the dress rehearsals, as well as individual photos of the pupils in costume. These can then be added on the school website and Facebook page, where we are aware parental permission has been granted. I trust parents understand the reasons for this, and I ask for your full support in this matter.

### Christmas Carol Service

Our school carol service will be held in Ebrington Presbyterian Church on the last morning of school, Friday 21 December at 10.00 am. More details of the arrangements around the service will be sent out closer to the time.



### Car Parking/ On Site Traffic

**Thank you to the majority of parents who have been following our requests regarding car parking and on site traffic.**

**Reminder:** I ask parents to make sure they continue to **NOT** park up on the school paths/ kerbs. Also, please drive slowly and demonstrate patience while driving on school premises. I ask for your continued support in this.

### School Christmas Dinner

Thank you to those parents who have already let school know whether or not their child/ren wish to avail of a Christmas dinner in school. Can I remind you that the closing date for ordering the Christmas dinner is **Tuesday 11th December 2018.**

### Cashless Meals System

Members of school staff and kitchen staff visited Drumahoe PS last week, who have been piloting the cashless school meals system. Due to a number of administrative tasks that need to be set up with the company providing the service prior to initializing, we will be unable to have the system up and running until after February half term. Parents will be required to submit additional information when we return from the Christmas break. This is to allow school to facilitate setting up the parental payment system.

P.T.O.

### **Breakfast Club**

Please note, Breakfast Club **will not be available on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December** due to the Christmas Concerts in School.

### **School Enrolment**

Recently, office staff attended awareness training for the new 'Digital Admissions' to Nursery & Primary One. The admissions 'portal' has now been developed and is found on [eani.org.uk/parents/admissions](http://eani.org.uk/parents/admissions). Applications can be made from Wednesday 2 January 2019 until Thursday 31 January 2019. This means parents making the application directly to EA, without involvement of school. School has updated admissions criteria and sent back to EA. The onus will very much be on parents to ensure they initiate the procedure. School will provide support, where possible.

### **Santa Claus is coming to Ebrington**



On Friday 14 December, Santa Claus is visiting school. He has decided this year that he wants to meet all the boys and girls in school, after all in Ebrington, we believe in 'Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day'. To make this happen, we are changing how the visit has been managed in the past. **There will be no need for parents to visit school on the day, or bring younger children.**

Each class will have a set time to visit Santa in his grotto and workshop during the school day. They will be accompanied by their class teacher and adult helpers. Some members of the PTA have very kindly offered to come and help Santa also.

Each child will receive a gift and have their photograph taken with Santa Claus. There will be NO CHARGE for this, as the PTA are working very closely with Santa. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the PTA for this generous support of all pupils in school.

### **Christmas Raffle**

Please remember to return all raffle tickets to school no later than 12:00pm on Thursday 6 December. We intend to make the draw at the KS1 Concert on the morning of Friday 7 December. If you require more tickets, please contact the school office.

### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR DECEMBER**

#### **Choir Dates and Times**

Senior Choir - Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December - Starbucks (Crescent Link) – 1.30 pm

Junior Choir - Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Starbucks (Crescent Link) – 1.00 pm

#### **Concert Dates and Times**

✚	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2018, Foundation Stage Concert (P1 & P2)	9.30 - 11.00 am (Assembly Hall)
✚	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2018, KS1 Concert (P3 & P4)	9.30 am- 11.00 am (Assembly Hall)
✚	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2018 N2 Concert	10.30 am (Assembly Hall)
✚	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2018 N1 Concert	10.30 am (Assembly Hall)

**SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 12 NOON ON FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER AND RE-OPENS ON MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019, NORMAL TIME.**

**HAVE A PEACEFUL ENJOYABLE CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

