

Castlereagh Nursery School
'Hand in Hand We Learn Together'

December 2021 Newsletter

Thank you!!

A massive heartfelt thank you for all the money you raised from the sponsored 'Welly Walk' on Friday 5th November. The children had a fantastic day, and the weather wasn't too bad for most of the morning. The children walked, jumped, skipped and ran over 5000 steps. The total money raised stands at...

£2124.50



This is an amazing amount of money raised, especially given the current situation. This is (by far) the most ever raised. We have already started to buy resources for the children including more new LCD writing pads and outdoor resources. Thank you so much. We will keep you posted about all the additional items we buy.

December

As you will see from our 'Dates for your Diary' page, December is an exciting and very busy month for the nursery. The children are learning all about the Celebration of Christmas, being thankful and being kind to others. You will also probably heard we have had 2 little visitors in the nursery. The children love to see what they have been up to each morning. On the last day of term there will be a staggered early pick up - Mrs Morrow's class 11.20am and Mrs Jones Class 11.30am.



Be Kind

Links with Primary schools

If you are undecided as to what Primary School you would like your child to transfer to, please log on to each school's website. Many schools are uploading virtual 3D tours instead of holding Open Days/evenings. Many local schools will send us information, we hand them out in the children's cubby holes. If you have any questions about particular schools, just give them a ring, the staff in each school will be happy to answer any questions you might have.

If you have a child, or know someone who has a child who was born on or between 2nd July 2018 and 1st July 2019 they will be eligible for a funded pre-school nursery place in September 2021.

Please remember P1 and pre-school nursery applications are now being completed on line. The application process opens on Monday 10th January at 12 midday and will close on 28th January at 12 midday (any applications after this time will be marked 'late').

Admissions criteria will be available on the EA website from Friday 17th December 2021.

Further information is available on the EA website under the Admissions section at - <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>

Open Afternoons

Instead of one open day this year we have placed the school tour on our website. There will also be 3 afternoons in January where small groups of parents (max 4) can have a 15 minute walk through the nursery. These sessions are being held during the first week back, Wed 5th Jan - Friday 8th Jan 2.30pm - 3.30pm. If you know anyone who would be interested in their child attending Castlereagh Nursery, please let them know.

Remember

Please send a warm coat into school everyday with your child. Even though the weather is getting colder we still go outside everyday (unless it is extremely wet). You may also send in a named hat with your child, but please do not send scarves, these are dangerous when the children are climbing or pedalling trikes.



Christmas Celebrations

We are still planning on holding the nursery nativity in Lisnasharragh Primary School. This is due to go ahead on Friday 17th December at 11am. However, please note that if guidelines change we will have to revert to a virtual show to be viewed online. We have risk assessed and in order to hold the nativity 'live' we need all parents to wear a face covering when in Lisnasharragh Primary School. We have to adhere to strictly maximum of 2 adults per child and no younger siblings will be permitted into the hall. We apologise for these extra mitigations but we want to help keep everyone as safe as possible. For anyone who does not feel comfortable being in large gatherings we will be recording the performance on Thursday 16th December as a full dress-rehearsal and this will be sent to all parents after the show on Friday.

Please see the song sheet on the last page of the newsletter. The children would love to practice at home with you too.



Christmas Cards

A number of parents have been asking about sending Christmas cards into nursery this year. If you would like to send a cards from your child to their classmates (just their own class). We have a post box for each class and the cards can be brought in and they will be quarantined for 72 hours. They will then be given out into cubby holes on each Friday. Please DO NOT feel the need to send cards. This is only if your child would like to do this. Obviously, names will need to be written on the envelope.

If you would like a list of (first) names of the children in your child's class, please send an e-mail to the school requesting this.

Settling in Questionnaire

Apologies for the delay in sending out the settling in questionnaire. It is now live on our website and can be found under the parents tab. Please, please take the time to give us your thoughts. We really aim to improve this stressful time each year and we need your help to do this. The survey is password protected and the password has been sent to each parent in the Newsletter E-mail on 2nd December. If you have any issues accessing it, please e-mail the office. The questionnaire will be live until 17th December.

<u>Dates for your Diary</u>	
<u>December</u>	
Thursday 2nd Dec	Mr Hullabaloo Interactive Theatre
W/B 6 th Dec	Please bring something Silver
Monday 6 th Dec	Jo Jingles - Music and Movement
Friday 10 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
W/B 13 th Dec	Please bring something Gold
Wednesday 15 th Dec	(Socially distanced). Ho Ho Ho Visit from Santa!!! (Shhhhh it's a surprise)
Thursday 16 th Dec	Rehearsal for the school Nativity
Friday 17 th Dec	Nativity - It's a Baby 11.00 - 11.30 Lisnasharragh Primary School
Monday 20 th Dec	Normal Day
Tuesday 21 st Dec	Christmas Party - Non Uniform School Closes at 11.30am for the Christmas Holidays
Wed 22 nd Dec	Staff Development day - School closed for children
<u>January</u>	
Tues 4th Jan	School Staff Development Day (school closed to children)
Wednesday 5 th Jan	School re-opens for children - Normal Time
Wednesday 5 th Jan Thursday 6 th Jan Friday 7 th Jan	Open afternoon tour 2.30-3.30pm (15 minute pre-booked sessions)
Thurs 6 th Jan	Lynn the Dental nurse visits to talk to the children about looking after their teeth.
Monday 10 th Jan	Pre-school and Primary school admissions open online @ 12 pm
Wednesday 19 th Jan	Yoga with Helena (8 week course) (1)
Wednesday 26 th Jan	Yoga with Helena (2)
<u>February</u>	
Wednesday 2 nd Feb	Yoga with Helena (3)
Wednesday 9 th Feb	Yoga with Helena (4)
Friday 11 th Feb	Last day before Half Term 11.30 finish
Monday 14 th Feb	Staff Training day - School closed to children
Monday 21 st Feb	School reopens - Normal times
Wednesday 23 rd Feb	Yoga with Helena (5)
Wednesday 2 nd March	Yoga with Helena (6)

Please note the early closure days in **Bold**

All the Staff wish you a Happy and Safe Christmas!!



Nativity Songs

It's a Baby'



Please feel free to bring this song sheet along and join in the singing

Knock Knock

Knock Knock knock at the door
Knock Knock is anyone there
Knock knock knock at the door
We need a place to stay
(Repeat Chorus)

3 rooms left, all the other rooms are full
3 rooms left, sorry that is all.
3 rooms left, all the other rooms are full,
3 rooms left, sorry that is all.

Chorus
2 rooms left.....
Chorus
1 room left.....

We've come to see the baby

We've come to see the baby,
We've come to see the baby,
We've come to see the baby,
Please will you let us come in.

We've seen a thousand angels,
You should have heard them sing (woohoo),
They talked about a saviour,
What a great and wonderful thing.

Repeat chorus
Repeat verse
Repeat chorus



Tonight, Tonight

Little town of Bethlehem, watch the starry sky
You will see amazing things, on this special night.

Tonight, tonight, wonderful things will happen
Tonight, tonight, wonderful things you'll see

Little town of Bethlehem, hear the joyful news,
God has planned a great event, he has chosen you.

Chorus x 2

Wise Men Three

Wise men three, clever are we,
Studied in astronomy
Saw a star, in the East,
Didn't know where it would lead us.

Wise men three, all agree,
Here's a great discovery,
Tell us please, where can we,
Find the baby King Jesus?

It's A Baby

It's a Baby, We've had a baby,
It's a lovely little baby boy,
Its amazing, there's no mistaking,
It's a baby that they're going to enjoy.

X3

Innkeepers Song

My life is getting very busy, My house is getting very full,
We've all been getting in a 'tizzy', We've not got any room at all.

Everywhere around me, Visitors surround me,
Happy to have found a place to stay
All the girls and boys are making such a noise, They're getting in my way (Hey!)