



# Cool News

December 2024

We would like to wish all of our friends, families and neighbours a very 'Happy Christmas'.



## Christmas Play

Our Nursery Unit Christmas Performance will be held on **Thursday 5th December** at 10 a.m. in our school hall. All of our Nursery parents, grandparents and friends are invited to join us on the morning to enjoy a performance of 'The Colours of Christmas'.

## Christmas Carol Service

Our Primary School Christmas Carol service will be held in St. Michael's Church of Ireland Church, Sixmilecross at 10 a.m. Parking will be available in both the Church car park and Cloughfin Orange Hall car park. All of our Yr 1-7 pupils will be participating in this service.

## Daily Mile Santa Run

We will be participating in the Daily Mile Santa Run on **Friday 6th December**. All Yr 1-7 pupils are asked to bring a Santa hat or warm woolly hat to school on this day.

## School Council

Our School Council have organised an 'Anything but a Schoolbag' day for **Friday 13th December**. On this day, pupils are asked to replace their usual schoolbag with something else to carry their belongings in. It might be suitcase, a shopping bag—pupils can be as imaginative as they wish!

Please send in a minimum donation of £1 on the day for our School Charity of the Year/School Funds.

## Open Days

Our Primary School Open Day was held as part of our Drop-in Day on Friday 29th November. If you know of any prospective parent who was unable to visit on this day, please ask them to get in touch to arrange for a time that suits them. Our Nursery Open Morning will be held on **Friday 13th December, 10.45 a.m.—12.45 p.m.**

Please help spread the word and invite prospective parents to visit our Nursery Unit.

**4th Dec:** Yr 1/3/7 Shared Education Trip to Pomeroy Forest

**5th Dec:** Nursery Christmas Performance

**6th Dec:** Daily Mile Santa Run

**11th Dec:** PTA Christmas Family Quiz

**12th Dec:** Cooley Caterpillars

**13th Dec:** Nursery Open Morning

**13th Dec:** Anything But a Schoolbag Day (Primary School). Min £1 donation.

**16th Dec:** Yr1-7 Trip to Pantomime

**17th Dec:** Christmas Dinner

**18th Dec:** School Carol Service at 10 a.m.

**20th Dec:** School closes at 12 noon: No school dinners. Non-uniform. Min £1 donation.

**23rd Dec - 3rd Jan:** (inclusive): School Closed: Christmas holidays

**9th Jan:** Cooley Caterpillars

**9th Jan:** NSPCC Online Safety talk for Parents @ 2p.m.

**4th & 6th Feb:** Parent Teacher Meetings: School closes @ 12.45

**12th—14th Feb:** (inclusive) School Closed: half-term

**28th Feb:** Anniversary Assembly

**5th Mar:** Anniversary Concert

**All dates are subject to change.**

### **Board of Governors**

Our school Board of Governors has recently been reconstituted. The current members for the 2024—2028 term of office are: Mrs. Iris Clarke (Chairperson), Rev. Robert McFaul (Vice-Chairperson), Mrs. Gail Cuthbertson (Secretary), Mrs. Joy Carrothers, Mrs Linda Brown, Rev. Alan Barr, Mr. Peter Alcorn and Mrs. Donna Kenwell.

### **Online Safety for Parents**

On **Thursday 9th January at 2 p.m.** we are hosting an NSPCC Online Safety workshop for Parents in our school hall. This workshop will provide parents and carers with information about how to support their child in their online world. Topics which will be covered will include online bullying, mental health and social media.

### **Anti-Bullying Week**

During the 12th—15th November, all of our pupils participated in Anti-Bullying Week. The theme this year was respect. The week started with Odd Socks Day and an assembly for our Yr 1-7 pupils to introduce the theme. This was followed up with a variety of activities in the classrooms throughout the week to help develop our understanding of respect and how we show it.

### **Remembrance Assembly**

On Monday 11th November we held a Remembrance Assembly in our school hall. Pupils participated in various ways including with Bible Readings and the laying of a wreath in our hall. Thank you to Rev. Barr who was our guest speaker at the assembly.

### **Ulster Leid Week**

During Ulster Leid week pupils participated in a range of activities to promote the Ulster Scots Language and Culture. These includes a cookery demonstration, a Scottish dancing session and Yr 4-7 pupils participating in a Choral Speaking competition organised by the Ulster Scots Agency. We would like to thank our PTA who were able to secure the funding for the cookery demonstration and the Scottish dancing session.

### **Shared Education**

Our Year 1, 3 and 7 pupils have participated in a number of Shared Education lessons during November. The focus has been Numeracy in the outdoor environment.

### **Cross Country Competition**

Congratulations to our pupils who recently participated in a Cross Country event in Castlederg High School. This is a new event for our school to participate in and a new experience for our pupils.

### **Parent and Teacher Association**

Our PTA were successful in a recent funding application which has allowed for the purchase of an ActivPanel for our Yr 1/2 classroom. This now means that all of our current primary school classrooms have an ActivPanel.

The next PTA event is the Christmas Family Quiz on Wednesday 11th December at 7 p.m. We hope that this will be an enjoyable evening for all of the family and will help to raise further funds to help support our school.