

St. Catherine's Primary School

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Strabane

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WEEKLY NOTE - Monday 4th December 2017

Check us out on our website: www.stcatherinesps.co.uk



StCatherines PrimarySchool

Download Our **FREE** School App

St Catherines PS, Strabane



Walk, Cycle or Scoot to School.... this Friday 8th December!

As part of our Sustrans events for this year we will have a number of events this Friday. You are all encouraged to walk, cycle and scoot with your child on this day. There will be prizes for the classes with the greatest number of journeys logged. Ronan

McLaughlin, our Sustrans officer, will be carrying out 'Ditch the Stabilisers' sessions on this day too. There will be assemblies on Active Travel and staying safe in the winter months. This is set to be an exciting day in our school!!!

God bless you all! Bridget Wilders, Principal

Parenting NI Notice

Parenting NI are hosting a Christmas Craft Workshop in St Catherine's JUNIOR SCHOOL CAMPUS on Monday 11th December from 3pm – 4.30pm. This is a FREE Fun Event for Parents and children together on the lead up to Christmas! If you and your child are interested in attending please register using the information below.



MONDAY 11TH DEC @ 3-4.30PM

ST CATHERINE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

TEXT CLARE - 07825392136 OR REGISTER

WWW.PARENTINGNI.ORG/PARENTS/FAMILIES-TOGETHER





SCHOOL CLOSURES



FOR THE CHRISTMAS
HOLIDAY
PERIOD

School will close at 12 Noon on Thursday 21st December 2017. There will be no school lunch on this day. Children can wear their casual clothes on this day.

School will reopen again on MONDAY 8th January.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our pupils, parents, families and friends of St. Catherine's a truly special, happy and holy Christmas and a bright, joyful and peaceful New Year 2018!

COMMUNITY NOTICE

Knockavoe School are having a Christmas Twilight Market on Thursday 7th December from 5pm- 8pm in their school.....an event for all the family to enjoy!

Grand Christmas Draw



Our Annual Christmas Draw is taking place this year again with some fabulous prizes. They are listed below. A book of tickets was sent home to every family last week. If you didn't receive any please ask at the school office. Additional tickets can also be obtained from the school offices if anybody wants to increase their chances!!

The tickets should be returned before Monday 18th December.

The draw will take place on Tuesday 19th December.

The prizes are listed below:-

- 1st Prize – Ipad
- 2nd Prize – Bike (Older child)
- 3rd Prize – Bike (Younger Child)
- 4th Prize – Flicker (Older Child)
- 5th Prize – Flicker (Younger Child)
- 6th Prize – Dolans(Shop) Lifford £100 Voucher
- 7th Prize – Christmas Food Hamper
- 8th Prize – Tote Bag (Sweetheart Bags
- 9th Prize – Christmas Candle & Stand
(Memory Candles)
- 10th Prize – Men's Tie and Socks
(Raymond Kirk Menswear)
- 11th Prize – Sweet Hamper
- 12th Prize - Sweet Hamper
- 13th Prize – Homemade Christmas Cake
(Mrs C.Mc Garrigle)
- 14th Prize – Bottle of Vodka
- 15th Prize – Bottle of Wine
- 16th Prize – Tin of Sweets

If you are not in, you can't win!!!!



STARTING SCHOOL 2018

INFORMATION ALERT

If you have a child who is eligible to start either Nursery or Year 1 in September 2018, the application forms are now available from either office across our two sites.

We will also send a form home with our Nursery Pupils for parents convenience.

We strongly recommend that you get your application forms into school again before Christmas.

This is due to the fact that St. Catherine's will be closed for the Christmas Holidays and is only due to reopen on Monday 8th January again, yet the closing date for the

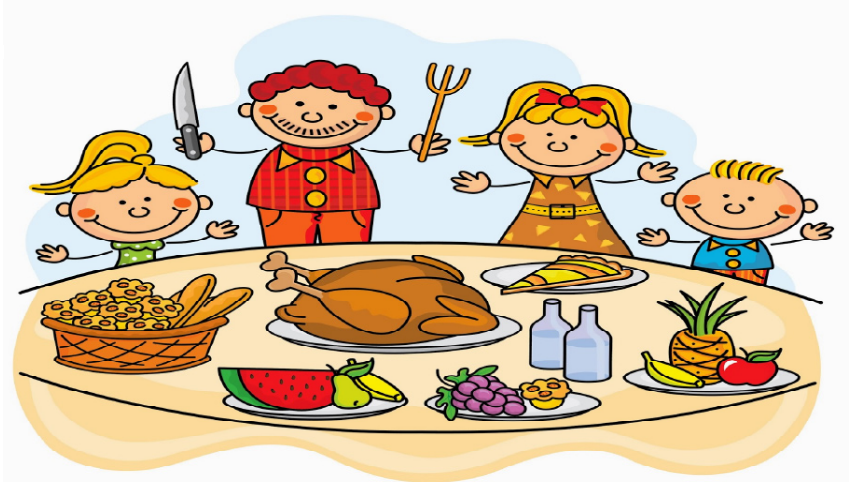


forms is Wednesday 10th January.

As we cannot predict weather conditions etc after Christmas it is a good idea to get your completed application submitted before that and you will be worry free!

Christmas Dinner

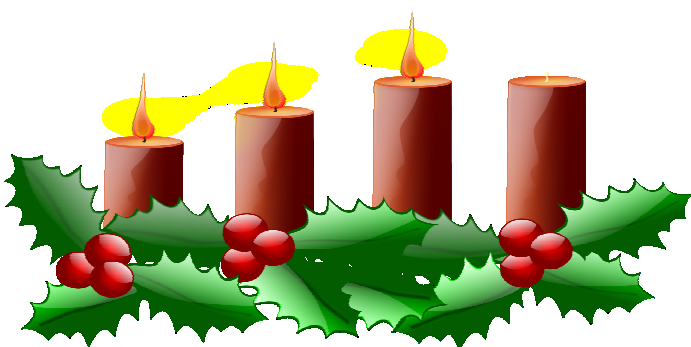
This year our Christmas Dinner will take place on Friday 15th December across the two sites of St. Catherine's! Everyone is welcome to have their Christmas Dinner.



Christmas Carol Service by Candlelight

Last year we held an absolutely beautiful carol service by candlelight in the Church

of the Immaculate Conception during the day in December. This year we plan to share this beautiful Carol Service with you all in the evening of Wednesday 20th December at 7pm. Our choirs will perform for you and we will share in prayer and carols with our SENIOR SCHOOL pupils on this very special evening. We hope you can come along and share in this beautiful event!



The Spirit of Christmas and the Spirit of Giving

Every year the staff of St. Catherine's Primary School make this little appeal to parents

Our staff know that you and your child really appreciate the work that they do in educating our children and we know that Christmas is a time of great joy but there is also hardship for some. To this end we ask that instead of spending money on a Christmas Gift for staff, that you might like to make a small donation to the class teacher in school and this will be invested in two main charitable causes this year.....

1. Trocaire Gifts for those in Need in Developing Countries
2. Help the Homeless in our own Local Area.

This is a voluntary gesture only. We hope that you understand and appreciate the gesture that we are all trying to make in the spirit of giving and generosity.

Thank you!





Junior School Christmas Nativity Production: He Lives in You!

Our Annual Junior Christmas Nativity Production which will involve all pupils from Nursery, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 will take place in St. Patrick's Hall on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th December at 7pm.

The Nativity Production this year is called

"He lives in you."

This is always a very special event and really puts us all in the mood for Christmas. This Year we have a special guest appearance from Senior Pupils performing a song to the theme of "He Lives in YOU!".....The Lion King Lives on!!

TICKETS

Each child from Nursery – Year 3 will have TWO tickets reserved for them. These can be bought from the school office on the JUNIOR SITE AND SENIOR SITE (For NURSERY PARENTS ONLY) from 8.45am-9.15am and 2.15pm-3pm from Tuesday 28th November until Monday

4th December. After that on Tuesday 5th December, if parents have not claimed tickets for their child these tickets will go into general sale and anyone who wants extra tickets may buy them on a first come first served basis! Tickets cost £5. Enjoy our wee children!



School Ties

If your child ever loses their school tie, ties are on sale at the school office to replace it!!

Elasticated tie : £4

Full tie : £5

Clip on tie: £6

CHRISTMAS CHOIRS

DATES FOR THE DIARY



Dear Parents,

We would like to thank you sincerely for bringing your children to sing at the Christmas Craft Fair. We were delighted with their enthusiasm and festive cheer!

As the Festive Period continues, there are a number of school and community events that our children have been asked to perform at. The events are outlined below.

We have had to allocate different events to different groups (A, B and C) depending on how many the venue/location can accommodate! The children will be told what group they are in next week.

Finer details regarding groupings/ uniform/ collection times etc will be sent out in advance of each event.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, contact Mrs Deery!

GROUP	DATE/TIME	EVENT	VENUE/ LOCATION
Senior and Show Choir combined (everyone)	Sunday 3rd December, 1:15pm	Strabane Christmas Fayre	Outside Café Nero, Main Street, Strabane
Senior and Show Choir combined (Group A)	Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th December, 7pm	St. Catherine's PS, Junior School Nativity	St Pat's Hall, Strabane
Senior and Show Choir combined (Group B)	Thursday 14th December, 11am	Strabane Day Centre, performance for clients	Strabane Day Centre
Senior and Show Choir combined (Group C)	Friday 15th December, 10:30am	Melmount Manor, Performance for residents	Melmount Manor
Senior Choir only (*Max 50 children. bus will be provided)	Monday 18th December, 7pm	Emergency Services Interdenominational Carol Service	St. Columbas Cathedral, Derry
Senior and Show Choir combined (everyone)	Wednesday 20th December, 7pm	St. Catherine's PS 'Christmas by Candlelight'	Church of the Immaculate Conception, Strabane

Year 4 Christmas Assembly

This year our most senior pupils in the Junior School, our Year 4 Pupils will host a very special Christmas Assembly for their parents in the Junior School Assembly Hall. This will be instead of their performing at the Nativity Production in St Patrick's Hall. This will be a first time event for Year 4 in school and both pupils and staff are very excited about a separate event for them in school with a Christmas Theme.

The date of our Year 4 Christmas assembly will be Tuesday 19th December in the Junior School Assembly Hall at 1.30pm. See you there for this very special event!



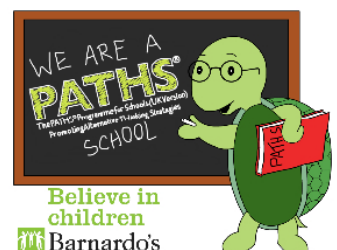
Joy to the World!

PATHS Programme in St. Catherine's

(Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies)

PATHS Quote of the Month - December

***Mirror, mirror on the wall,
Give a compliment and that's not all,
Make it nice, make it kind,
A deserving person is easy to find.***





Our Prayer of the Month

ADVENT

**Jesus, we are waiting with joyful hearts
to remember and celebrate the wonder of your birth.**

**You came into the world as a helpless baby,
but already you were holding within your tiny, beating heart
a beautiful hope for mankind: a sacred dream
in which we live together in peace, love, and truth.**

**Throughout this time of waiting, may we do our very best
to turn your sacred dream for us into reality, so that at Christmas,
we can offer you a present for your birthday,
fashioned out of peace and perfect love.**

Amen



DECEMBER 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Strabane Christmas Fayre Senior & Show Choir (Combined) 3	Panto Derry Years 5-7 Pupils 4	Panto Derry Years 1-4 Pupils Santa Grotto 5 Nursery	6	7	Walk, Cycle or Scoot to School Day 8	2
10	Christmas Craft Workshop Parenting NI Free workshop 11	Junior Nativity Senior & Show Choir (Group A) 12	Junior Nativity Senior & Show Choir (Group A) 13	Day Centre Senior & Show Choir (Group B) 14	Melmount Manor Senior & Show Choir (Group C) Christmas 15 Dinner	Year 4 "Do This In Memory" 4th Sunday of Advent 6.30pm 16
17	Carol Service Derry Senior Choir Only 18	Grand Christmas Draw Year 4 Assembly 19	Christmas By Candlelight Senior & Show Choir (Combined) 20	Christmas Holidays - School Closes 12 noon 21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						