

# Staff Headlines

23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

## EA's Christmas Family Food Appeal open until Thursday 7th December 2023



The [EA Christmas Family Food Appeal](#) has gotten off to a great start with help from staff, services and schools across the EA.

The appeal will run until Thursday 7th December 2023. If you feel you can support the appeal, there is still plenty of time to donate food items or assist with the volunteering campaign.

How can I/we help?

1. On your next shopping trip pick up an extra item(s) from the most needed items below:

Please drop the item(s) off at EA Offices (Reception), where there is a Green Food Bank Crate/Box waiting.

- Armagh Office: 3 Charlemont Place, The Mall, Armagh, BT61 9AX
- Belfast Office: 40 Academy Street, Belfast, BT1 2NQ
- Ballee Office: 2-6 Ballee Road West, Ballymena, BT42 2HS
- Dundonald Office: Grahamsbridge Road, Dundonald, BT16 2HS
- North West TC: 24 Temple Rd, Strathfoyle, Londonderry BT47 6TJ
- Silverwood Centre: Lough Rd, Craigavon BT66 6LX
- Dungannon TC: Thomas St, Dungannon BT70 1HW
- Antrim Board Centre: 17 Lough Road, Antrim BT41 4DH
- \*Omagh Office: 1 Hospital Road, Omagh, BT79 0AW

*\*As currently The Trussell Trust does not have a Food Bank in the Omagh Area, we have liaised with The Outreach Centre and REACH Food Bank, Omagh and all donations will be distributed locally.*

- Custard and Tinned Fruit
- Diluting Juice and Shloer
- Female Sanitary Products
- Gravy Granules
- Honey and Jam
- Mince Pies
- Red and Brown Sauce
- Rice
- Selection Boxes
- Soap and Household Cleaning Items
- Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate and Sugar
- Tinned Biscuits and Sweets
- Toilet Rolls and Toiletry Gift Sets
- Toothpaste and Toothbrushes

2. You may be interested in taking part in a volunteering opportunity for approved staff to support *The Trussell Trust's Winter Collection Event* taking place in various Tesco Stores - visit EA's [HealthWell Hub](#) to find out more about this volunteering opportunity.

All donated items will be distributed in your local area. We look forward to updating you on the difference you will make to children, young people, and their families within our communities during this Christmas period.

If you are unable to attend the available donation points you can still get involved by accessing information on your local food bank and how to help or donate in other ways by visiting <https://www.trusselltrust.org/>

Should you have any questions in relation to this giving back appeal, please do not hesitate in contacting one of the team: [healthandwellbeing@eani.org.uk](mailto:healthandwellbeing@eani.org.uk)

# Launch of Reconstitution of School Boards of Governors



A reconstitution campaign has been launched by the Department of Education (DE) and the Education Authority, (EA) to encourage applications for the role of school governor.

Controlled schools' Boards of Governors (BoGs) are usually reconstituted every four years when members complete their term of office and may be reappointed or replaced. The aim of reconstitution is to achieve a good balance of individuals on the BoG, based on the skills, knowledge and experience that they bring to the role.

EA CEO Sara Long commented: *"School governors play a vital role in the successful management of schools. Working together with school leaders, they set the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school. They can bring experience from other walks of life and make an important contribution using qualities such as empathy and good judgement. Governors focus on making a genuine difference to the outcomes of children and young people in their schools."*

EA is encouraging volunteers from all backgrounds, across NI, to apply for the role of school governor and previous experience, or formal qualifications are not required. Anyone aged 18 or over can volunteer to become a school governor. Successful applicants will be expected to take up the post for a four-year term of office from 2024 - 2028.

Further information can be found at <https://www.eani.org.uk/school-governance>.



# Addressing Bullying Behaviour – Parent and Pupil guide launched

Following collaboration with over 100 schools throughout the region, the EA Addressing Bullying in Schools Implementation Team (ABSIT) has developed resources for use with children and young people, and to share with parents/carers.

These resources are available on the [Addressing Bullying Behaviour](#) page on our website and provide information on:

- The legal definition of bullying type behaviour and the difference between this and other socially unacceptable behaviour.
- School support for children, young people, and their families in line with the Addressing Bullying in Schools Act (NI) 2016.
- Advice for parent, carers and pupils regarding how bullying type behaviour is identified and supported in schools.
- Signs that a pupil could be experiencing bullying type behaviour and signposting to further support.

**Addressing Bullying Behaviour in Schools**  
Parent and Pupil guide to supporting children and young people who are experiencing bullying type behaviour

[Bullying Type Behaviour - Information for Parents | Education Authority Northern Ireland \(eani.org.uk\)](#)

# Join the Daily Mile Santa Run on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December



The Daily Mile Network NI is inviting schools and early years settings from across Northern Ireland to join in on Friday 1st December 2023 for the annual [Daily Mile Santa Run](#) - a day filled with lots of fun activities.

Grab your Christmas jumper & join in the fun on Friday 1st December 2023 for the virtual Santa run!

Once registered, you will receive a link for the Santa run page with access to fun downloadable resources to support you on the day.

To register, visit: <https://ow.ly/vtsS50Q2XzZ>

# Lunch & Learn

## Remaining November sessions

- **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November: EALearn - Coming Soon!**

EALearn is the new Learning Management System for EA staff. It will provide staff with access to a wide range of digital, classroom and blended learning that will support learning.

- **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November: Learning and Development Portfolio**

This session will introduce you to the wealth of Learning and Development opportunities available throughout EA. As part of this session you will be introduced to the new interactive Learning and Development Portfolio.

### [Book your place here](#)

As part of our delivery of Lunch and Learn we have recorded a number of the sessions, if you have missed one or would just like to see what's on offer please [access the Lunch and Learn Channel](#) or alternatively join the [Lunch and Learn Team Site](#) (only available to those with EA login).

**Those without an EANI login can access recorded content by logging in to: [EA SDS](#) and using Invite Code: 2790sl**

Please enjoy these bite-sized learning opportunities and if you would like to contribute please get in touch at [LunchandLearn@eani.org.uk](mailto:LunchandLearn@eani.org.uk)



## AI in Education in NI Conference



EdIS and the Information Forum brought Northern Ireland's school leaders and educational professionals together for the first time on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November to discuss the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in classrooms and learning environments.

Attending the 'AI in Education in NI' conference were two hundred school principals and senior teachers together with representatives from the Department of Education (DE), Education Authority (EA), Council for Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) and other education leaders.

Delegates heard from keynote speaker and international expert, Professor Mairead Pratschke, on the opportunities and challenges arising from the rapid development of AI in education.

This was followed by representatives from Google and Microsoft who presented the latest AI developments in their collaborative productivity workspaces.

To read the full story and to watch the conference highlights, please visit [EdIS Latest news](#).

## We want to hear from you

If you have any news or stories that you would like to be considered for inclusion in an upcoming edition of Staff Headlines, email [comms@eani.org.uk](mailto:comms@eani.org.uk)

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