

**1-12-2020**

Dear Parent

Please see below details of Christmas-related events and other general information for the remainder of this term.

Christmas dinner day is next **Thursday, 10th December.** All pupils are invited to wear their Christmas jumper (no uniform) on this day and bring £1, which will be donated to Newry Hospice. This will be a full school day, with normal collection times.

We are running a raffle in school during the next two weeks to raise some money for school funds. Our Parents’ Support Group have kindly donated a small sweets hamper for each class, to be raffled on **Friday 11th December**. Tickets will be on sale from tomorrow and are priced at £1 per strip.

Unfortunately, this year, our usual collection of food and treats for the SVDP appeal can’t happen. Instead, the local branch of SVDP are asking for donations to be made directly to them, to help families in the area over Christmas.

Every year we are overwhelmed by your generosity in sending gifts to staff at Christmas time. This year, we are hoping that you will understand our decision to put others first, given the difficult and challenging year many families have experienced. We ask that instead of sending gifts to the staff, that donations, where possible, are made to our local ‘Helping Hands’ charity. We will have a box in each classroom and donations can be brought to school in a sealed, unnamed envelope and placed in the box. We hope that this small gesture will make a difference to someone over Christmas.

Santa will visit our Nursery on **Monday 7th Dec** and will hopefully drop into some of the other classes to see all the girls and boys hard at work!

We hope to have some beautiful singing from each class posted on our website next week. All classes have been practising some Christmas songs and hope to raise your spirits with a little Christmas cheer!

We are very proud of two of our past pupils, Ciara Hill and Rachael Merry, who line out with their county in this weekend’s All-Ireland camogie final against Cavan. We are having a jersey day on Friday (4th) to mark the occasion and everyone is invited to wear a jersey of their choice to school on that day. (Gaelic jerseys only of course!) We wish the county team all the very best on Saturday and look forward to a visit from Ciara and Rachael when they bring the cup to Granemore!

We finish for Christmas on Friday 18th December, when school will close at 12 noon. More details on exact pick-up times will follow.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs B Casey