

Ballysillan P.S Newsletter

December 2023

This is one of our busiest months of the year. There are lots of dates for your diary and different finishing times on particular days, please read carefully. We will also put a reminder of specific events and times via Seesaw.

SEPTEMBER 2024 - NURSERY AND P1 APPLICATIONS

Applications for Nursery and P1 open on **Tuesday 9th January 2023** at 12 noon. These applications will close on Friday **26th January at 12noon.**

Please note, the EA online portal will not be accessible after this time. Please ensure you read our criteria correctly and ensure you complete all sections of the online form. REMINDER-All birth certificates for P1 and Nursery are uploaded onto the portal along with any other supporting documents.

MILK AND SCHOOL FUNDS

Many thanks for the prompt payment of money to date. December payments are due by Monday 4th December. January

orders will be due before Monday **18th December 2023.** Milk must be ordered before Christmas so we are asking for a prompt payment for those wanting to avail of January milk. REMINDER-Several months or the year can be paid at once.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our Christmas Fair will be on **Wednesday 6th December.** It will start at **5.30pm** and will finish at **7.30pm.** The playground will be open for parking from 5pm for stall holders and 5.15pm for parents. We would be delighted to see a great turn out! Of course, Santa will be arriving and is excited to see all the boys and girls!

CHRISTMAS FAIR EARLY FINISH

All children will be dismissed at **1pm on Wednesday 6th December.** This will allow staff to set up and organise the Christmas Fair.

P7 BOYS' MODEL TASTER DAY

Primary 7 children will enjoy a taster session in the Boys' and Girls' Model **on Monday 4th December.** This will run from approximately 9.15am until 2.00pm and transport will be provided.

NURSERY TO P7 MAGICAL MOVIE NIGHTS

On **Wednesday 13th December** we will be hosting a movie night from 5.00pm-6.00pm for Nursery to P3 pupils. On **Thursday 14th December**, we will be hosting a movie night for pupils in P4-P7 at the same time. We are asking for parents to bring their children to the front doors of the school for 4:45pm and a prompt pick up at 6:00pm. Sweets and treats will be provided. The cost for this event is **£2** per child which is to be paid to the class teacher.

CHRISTMAS DINNER & JUMPER DAY

We are going to be celebrating Christmas Jumper Day on the **7th December**. This is also Christmas Dinner day and the Santa Hat Stroll (see below)! What a lovely way to get into the festive spirit. If you would like to avail of a Christmas dinner, please let your child's teacher know via the Seesaw App by **Monday 4th December** end of day so we can provide numbers to the kitchen staff.

SANTA STROLL

On **Thursday 7th December** we are taking part in Sustrans Santa Walk, so classes will be in the playground during the day walking

or running approximately a mile. To spread the festive cheer, and as a good warm up for pupils and for parents, we are encouraging everyone to also walk, cycle, scoot into school that morning to show off our Santa hats, festive headgear headbands, tinsel or anything else Christmassy! Remember if you live further from school, drive part way in then find a safe place to park and walk the last part of the journey - even better join our walking bus that day and we can all walk in together.

P1-P3 CHRISTMAS PLAY

Our P1-P3 Play is called "Everyone Loves A Baby". It is going to be performed on **Friday 15th December at 10.30am**. There will be an entrance fee of **£2** per adult, paid at the door for this BIG event! After the play is over parents will have the option to take their children home or allow them to stay for normal finishing times.

NURSERY NATIVITY

Nursery will be performing their Christmas Nativity on **Friday 15th December**. The nativity will begin at 10am. **Shloer and mince pies will also be served in the hall for**

parents to enjoy. There will be an entrance fee of £2 per adult, paid at the door for this BIG event! Please feel free to invite any grandparents or family members who would enjoy the event. Parents will have the option to take their child home or collect them at normal pick up time.

KS2 SPRING MUSICAL

Just a reminder that our P4-P7 play will be performed as a Spring Musical in March 2024. We will be sending details closer to the time.

P4-7 CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

This year P4-P7 will be performing at the Carol Service on **Wednesday 20th December**. Nursery-P3 will not be performing but will be brought by their class teacher to watch. P4-P7 will all perform as an individual class on the stage. This will begin at **10.30am. School will finish at 11.30am for all children.** There will be no school dinners this day.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club will finish on **Friday 15th December 2023** and will commence on **Monday 8th January 2024**.

CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY

Our class Christmas Party Day will be the last day of school, **Thursday 21st December**. Children can come to school in their own clothes or wearing something festive! They can bring some treats for their classroom that will be shared altogether at snack time. Please allow your child to bring in their normal water bottle. The children will be partying with some festive music and movies. After such a busy month all children will deserve this treat. **All children will be dismissed at 11.30am.**

JANUARY RETURN DATES

All classes will return to school on **Thursday 4th January 2024**. Breakfast club will not commence until **Monday 9th January 2024**. After School Clubs will recommence the week beginning **16th January 2023**.

****CAR PARKING**

To ensure the safety of everyone, (including pupils) when you are parking at the front and back gates of school

please remember to abide by the following rules -

1. Drive very slowly and carefully when entering and exiting Clare Glen and **do not** park in the cul-de-sac or across residents' driveways, in case of emergencies.
2. If parking at the front of school, please **do not** block the view of the lollypop lady or park across the gates.
3. Do not block any entrance/exit routes at any time.
4. If you live close by walking is a healthy option instead of driving - **please join the Walking Bus!**

DO NOT park on the footpath as it obstructs the Patrol Lady.