Drumahoe Primary School – Parent Memo: December 2023



Hello everyone. We are in December and I'm sure you are all looking forward to all the fun and excitement in the lead up to the holidays. I just wanted to give you some information on our busy Christmas schedule here in school.

Christmas Dinner:

This will be served in school on **Thursday 14th December** and anyone wishing to avail of the Christmas dinner should book online (<u>www.ipayimpact.co.uk</u>) **on or before Friday 8th December 2023** (cost £2.60) to allow the kitchen to order appropriately.

After School Clubs

Please note that Netball, Mr Scott's football, Rugbytots and Brazilian football have now all finished for this term, Today (Monday 4th December) if the last day of Art and Craft Club.

Highland Dancing – last day – 19th December 2023 – will also be held on 9th January to ensure all sessions paid for are provided.

French – last day – 19th December 2023

Hockey – last Day – 13th December 2023 – will also be held on 10th January to ensure all sessions paid for are provided.

Maiden City – last day – 14th December – will also be held on 4th January to ensure all sessions paid for are provided.

Festive Breakfast/ Evening:

We are very much looking forward to holding our Festive Morning / Evening on **Wednesday 6th December**. All orders are now being processed by the elves who are working hard to ensure everyone has a great day. Doors will open at 6p.m. and there will be a variety of craft stalls in attendance on the evening at which you can purchase some Christmas gifts as well as the very popular 100 stall, cake stall, Christmas Stall and bran tub. Kidz Farm will also be there on the night, which I know the children always enjoy. Admission on the evening is £2.00 and this will get you a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit and will also allow the children to visit Kidz Farm on the evening.

For those who have booked breakfast with Santa, Santa will start to see the children in the morning of **Wednesday 6th December 2023** from 9.15 a.m. in the Dining Hall before taking up residence in his Winter Wonderland. Pre-school children and parents who wish to accompany their P1 – P4 child(ren) should be here between 9.15 and 10.15 a.m.

Thank you to all of you that have contributed so generously to our 100 stall and Christmas stall. This week we will be accepting items for our cake stall and again all donations are welcome. These can be left in the assembly hall from today onwards.

If you are free to provide some assistance with stalls etc. on the evening, could you please let Mrs Glenn know.

Christmas Card Fundraiser:

Many thanks to everyone who ordered Christmas cards from the school that were designed by the children themselves. Hopefully you are as pleased with the end result as we are. The total raised from this fundraiser is £341.00 which will go towards our school funds for purchasing new computer equipment and online learning resources. A special word of thanks to "Print Chameleon" and to Mrs J McKeegan for organising this initiative.

<u>Choir</u>

The school choir is performing in St. Columb's Cathedral on Thursday 7th December from 10am until 10.45a.m. If you are in town and would like to come along and listen to them perform, it would be great to see you.

Christmas Fundraising:

This year the children will have the chance to win a jar full of sweets or a Christmas teddy. All they have to do is guess how many sweets are in the jar and the name of the teddy. Guesses for the teddy are 50p per guess and 20p per guess for the jar of sweets or 6 guesses for £1.00. As you may have seen from our App, the fundraising has already begun and the winner will be announced on the last week of term in time for the Christmas holidays. Children will have the opportunity to make their guesses every day until the winner is announced.

Closing / Opening:

School will close for the Christmas holidays at 12.00 noon on Thursday 21st December 2023 (no dinners) for ALL pupils. School re-opens for the Spring Term on Thursday 4th January 2024. The Kadet Klub will be in operation on that day.

Kadet Klub:

Kadet Klub will close for Christmas on Wednesday 21st December 2023 at 5.30pm. Kadet Klub re-opens on Thursday 4th January 2024. Booking forms will be issued w/c 11.12.23 for January and must be returned before the Christmas holidays ie.21.12.23.

P3 Finishing Time:

Just a little reminder that the finishing time for the P3 children will be 3 p.m. after Christmas. Therefore, all children in Primary 3 will remain in school until 3.00p.m. from Thursday 4^{th} January onwards. Please remember this if your child is in P3 and normally attends Kadet Klub from 2 - 3 p.m.

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P1 & School Enrolment

School Enrolment Information on the procedures for school admissions in September 2024 should be available on the EA website <u>www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions</u> from 12th December 2023 for Pre-school/Primary 1 places. Schools are currently updating criteria to send back to EA for Year 1 admissions. The dates given for the application process for Primary and Nursery schools currently is that it will go live on the EA website on the **Tuesday 9th January 2024** at 12 noon, with a closing date for applications on **26th January 2024**.

P1 Open Evening

The school held its annual Open Evening last Wednesday 29th November. We were delighted with the attendance and feedback from all parents which was centred around the warm and friendly atmosphere of the school and the amazing facilities we are so lucky to have access to. If you know of anyone who missed our Open Evening but would like to experience for themselves what we at Drumahoe have to offer, then please encourage them to contact us **on 028 7130 2284**. They would be made more than welcome.

P1 and P2 Nativity

We are so pleased to once again be able to perform our Nativity for parents on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th December. The performances will begin at 10a.m. on both days and parents are welcome to stay for a tea / coffee after the performance. Tickets for the Nativity are on sale in the office at the cost of £3.00 per person.

KS1 and KS2 Carol Service

The school will hold a Carol service on **Wednesday 20th December** in Glendermott Presbyterian Church at **1.00 p.m.** Children in Primary 3 to Primary 7 will be performing (not Primary 1 or Primary 2 as they are busy working on their nativity). Parents are very welcome to join us at our Carol Service at that time and if you have a child in Primary 1 or 2 that you would like to bring with you to the service, they can be collected at school after 12.45pm but please inform your child's teacher if it is your intention to do so. All children can be collected from the church after the service or can be walked back to school afterwards to be picked up at 3p.m. or to attend Kadet Klub. Children in P3 will be required to remain in school until 3p.m. on this day.

Last Day of Term / Christmas Jumper Day:

The last day of term will be a non-uniform day and will be an opportunity for the children to show off their best festive jumper! A donation of £1.00 towards school funds would be appreciated.

I would also like to take this opportunity on behalf of myself, the Staff and the Board of Governors of the school to thank everyone connected with the school for their unstinting support. Without such support our job would be so much more difficult - it is most appreciated. We would also like to wish all of you a most relaxing Christmas and a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year.

E Walker - Principal.

