



December 2019 Newsletter



Telephone: 028 71 341419

info@chapelroadps.derry.ni.sch.uk

www.chapelroadps.co.uk

Principal: Mrs. Mary Bacheta

Dear families and friends

Thank you for supporting and attending the Christmas Fair with such good cheer. In total we raised £1001.74 for school funds. The evening was enjoyed by everyone and was a lovely way to get into the Christmas spirit.

This newsletter is packed with information you need to know about our Christmas arrangements and activities. Please keep it and make a note of the dates and times.

REMINDER SCHOOL CLOSURES

School will close for Christmas on Friday 20th December at 12 NOON.

Children return to school on Monday 6th January 2020.

CHRISTMAS DINNER-THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2019

Our Annual Christmas dinner will be served on Thursday this week costing £2.60 as normal if paying for dinner. Children can come to school wearing their Christmas jumper/clothes/hat/hairband/tinsel to celebrate. As always this is optional-some children prefer the routine of the school uniform. There should be no pressure on anyone but the option is there if you wish.

SUSTRANS ACTIVE TRAVEL- 'DITCH THE DARK'

We are aiming to secure our SUSTRANS Silver Award by the end of this school year. To achieve this award, we have to complete some tasks as a whole school community. Please support our 'DITCH THE DARK' CAMPAIGN this Friday morning 6th December at 8.30 am. There will be 2 meeting points- The Chapel carpark and the top of Fountain Hill opposite the shops so if you drop the children off with a member of staff, we will ensure everyone gets to school safely. You can also join us as we walk to school. We will leave the drop off points at 8.40am and walk to school.

To ensure the upmost safety we are asking everyone to wear bright coloured clothes/Hi-Viz vests on Friday. This will mean we can be seen by all road users.

Even if you are not able to join us, all children can wear bright clothes to school on Friday.

REMINDER-RICKETY WHEEL IN THE CRAFT VILLAGE ON SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER AT 2.00PM-4.30PM-PLEASE SUPPORT THE FRIENDS OF CHAPEL ROAD PS

If you feel like you would like to join the committee, please contact the office on 028 71341419 and we will pass on your details.

THANK YOU to everyone who took the time to complete the recent parental questionnaire. Your feedback was so lovely to hear with 100% of the parental responses citing a positive view of the education and provision at CRPS. We are so proud of our school and everyone in it-there is not a day that goes by without a visitor commenting on the lovely manners and the hard work that is going on. Visitors particularly comment on the friendly and welcoming atmosphere of which we are very proud. We will respond to any suggestions made in the January newsletter.

OPEN MORNING

You are invited to our **OPEN MORNING on Wednesday 18th December between 9.30am and 11.30am**. Please also share this with any new parents who would like to send their children to our lovely school. We hope to have the new build available to view at this time also. It will be lovely to see everyone who can make it. If you have family and friends who attended the school previously, they may also want to come along and see all the fantastic changes we have made to the inner courtyard area.



PRIMARY 1 APPLICATIONS

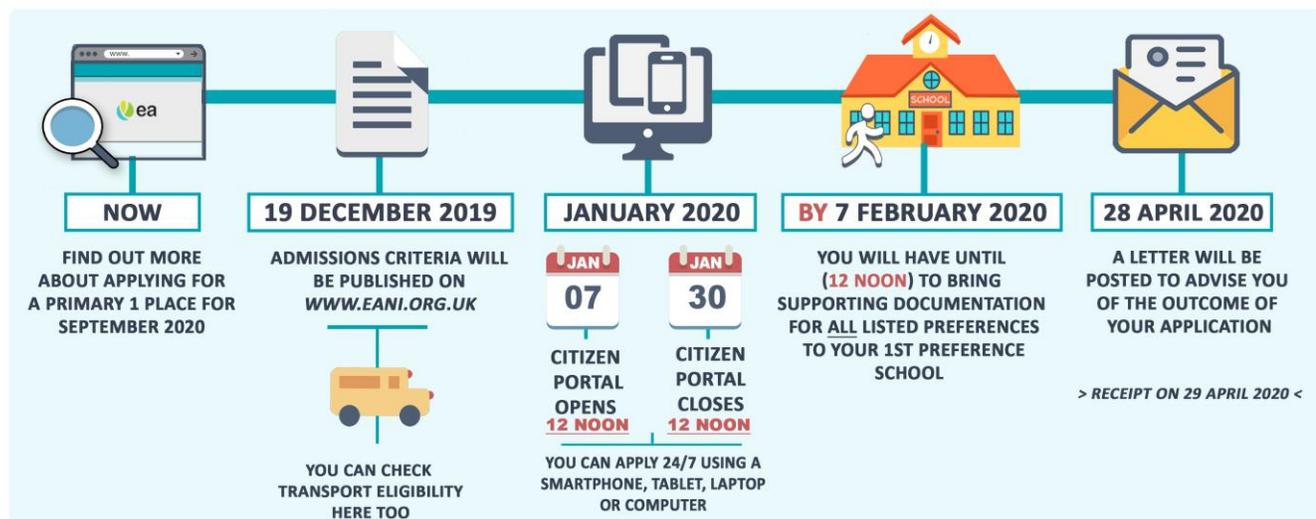
Applying for a Primary One place for September 2020

If your child is starting primary school in September 2020 please see the information below.



KEY DATES FOR PARENTS : Admissions Process for Primary One Places 2020

CHILDREN BORN ON OR BETWEEN **2 JULY 2015 AND 1 JULY 2016** WILL HAVE REACHED COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE IN SEPTEMBER 2020
CHILDREN BORN ON OR BETWEEN **2 JULY 2016 AND 1 JULY 2017** CAN APPLY FOR A PLACE IN A RECEPTION CLASS.



Admissions Helpdesk Contact Details

Admissions Helpdesk can be contacted by phoning **028 9598 5595**

Lines are open Monday to Friday (9am - 5pm)

There is also information about applying for Pre-school. Please contact us if you need any assistance with your application.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER OR HAT WEEK

16TH DECEMBER TO 20TH DECEMBER

The children can put the uniforms away until January 2020 and come to school wearing anything 'festive' all of the last week.

It is **22 sleeps until Christmas morning so we have 12.5 school days to go!**

See below some of the planned activities and events we have in store between now and Christmas. As always we need and appreciate your continued support with everything we do.

WED 4TH DEC

Tickets for Christmas Show on sale daily

THURS 5TH DEC

Christmas Dinner-wear Christmas jumpers
P5 Gaelic Blitz at Foyle Arena (back for lunch)

FRI 6TH DEC

Digital Leader Interviews

WED 11TH DEC

Christmas Show at 1.30pm

THURS 12TH DEC

Christmas Show at 10.00am
Christmas Show at 6.00pm

FRI 13TH DEC

Ryan Mc Bride Tournament-Football Team
Choir singing in Foyleside for The Samaritans at 10.00-10.30am

SAT 14TH DEC

Rickety Wheel in the Craft Village at 2.00pm-4.30pm

MON 16 DEC

Christmas/festive clothes week(optional)
Lumen Christi College visit to P6 and P7
PARKY THE MAGICAN in for all classes
P7 girls to St Mary's College (pm)

WED 18 DEC

OPEN MORNING 9.30-11.30am-all welcome

FRI 20 DEC

School finishes at 12 NOON





ADVERSE WEATHER/SNOW ARRANGEMENTS



Luckily, we do not experience too many days where we feel that we may not be able to open the school or that weather conditions may hinder attendance at school. To put it into context, children are expected to attend 185 school days so we are only talking about a very small number of adverse weather days when conditions may cause us an issue. We try not to dwell on these days but focus on all the other happy days we come to school.

In the event of adverse weather conditions, the most important factor is the Health & Safety of every member of our school community.

To ensure you do not feel under pressure or put anyone in a situation where children or adults are at risk we would encourage you to carefully assess the weather conditions before making the journey to school. We understand that a large number of families including staff live in areas where there are steep hills and untreated roads. We do not want anyone to worry about the journey to school. We also understand that parents and guardians have the added pressure of needing to get to work on time. Unfortunately, we cannot predict or change bad weather but we can offer solutions to help us have a more pleasant experience.

Please note the following:

As far as is possible we will always try to open the school, however, on the rare occasion where it is deemed too dangerous, a message will be sent through the website and on Facebook at the earliest opportunity.

In the event of adverse weather, there is no immediate rush required to get to school. Children will be marked in for the morning session if they arrive in before 10.30am. Just contact the office to let us know.

If you can avoid driving up the hill to the school, please do so as it can be very slippery, especially around school time when traffic is going in both directions. A later arrival will also mean you will miss some of the congestion. A number of parents used the entrance down at Shepherd's Glen last year and they found this an easier route.

Just an additional note on the above: I have tried to get the 'gritter' to come up and salt the hill and have been told that we need to have a larger number of road users to justify this. If you have time, I would encourage you to continue to put pressure on the local MLAs and council to afford us this much needed service.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Friday 20th December at 12 NOON-Monday 6th January 2020



FIRST CONFESSION-PRIMARY 4

Thursday 12th March 2020 at 2.00pm in the assembly hall.



FIRST COMMUNION-PRIMARY 4

Saturday 9th May 2020 at 11.30am in St. Columb's Church, Chapel Road followed by refreshments in the school assembly hall.

CONFIRMATION-PRIMARY 7

Saturday 28th March 2020 at 11.00am in St. Columb's Church, Chapel Road followed by refreshments in the parish hall.



Thank you for your continued support in all that we do.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

EVERYONE!

Mrs. Bacheta and staff

