

# St Michael's Primary School Finnis



## Newsletter November~December 2017

The trip to the pantomime will be held Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December with buses leaving from school at 11.45am. This year's pantomime is 'Little Miss Muffet's Christmas Caper' which should be great fun. Any outstanding moneys to be paid by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November. The Pantomime lasts for 1hr 10mins, with no break, at a cost of £5 per person. The buses should return to school by 3.10pm. Children must wear their full school uniforms. Children will have their lunch before they leave, there will be no school dinners on that day.

We are continuing to develop the school's Positive Behaviour Policy which will be finalised by the end of the year. A new feature of the Policy is the increased record keeping we are doing in relation to incidents which occur at school. Each teacher has an incident book which they use to record incidents which may occur. There is also a Principal's Incident File where more serious incidents are recorded, as laid out in the Positive Behaviour Policy. A form will be filled out recording the details of such incidents, a copy of which will be sent home to parents. A blank copy has been included. We hope this new system will add to the excellent communication between the school and the home.

Mrs Malone, the Numeracy Coordinator, is carrying out a numeracy audit this year. As part of this Mrs Malone is gathering information from staff, pupils and parents. Attached is a short survey, we would appreciate if parents could take the time to fill this in which will help improve Numeracy provision at the school.

Well done to the seven Irish Dancers, Catherine Mc Key, Cara Mc Evoy, James Fitzsimmons, Ellen Mc Evoy, Leah Doyle, Erin Douglas and Sean Mc Evoy, who progressed to the final of the Scór.

The school open night will be held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November between 7.00pm and 8.00pm. Some of the children will be asked to come into school to give a hand on the night. We would encourage all parents with children who will be starting Primary One or Reception to attend and let any friends or family, who may be new to the area, know about the open night. More information to follow.

Everyone is making a good effort to send their children to school in the appropriate uniforms. We would ask that this is maintained as it instils a sense of pride in the school. We are currently looking into a new PE uniform for the school which would have the school crest on it. More information to follow.

The Primary 4-7 trip to Castleward, which was postponed due to Storm Ophelia, will now be Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Theme is Victorian Christmas.

The Christmas season is fast approaching and we are entering into a busy period at school. Our Christmas Play will be held this year on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm in St Michael's Parish Hall. School will close for all pupils at 2.00pm on this day.

School closes for Christmas holidays Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 11.00am. There will be no buses on that day.

School reopens Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January for all pupils.

The school Christmas dinner will be on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December, we would encourage everyone to take dinners on this day as the children really enjoy it. Anyone who doesn't want to take Christmas dinners let Patricia know by tomorrow, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November. School closes for everyone at 1.50pm on this day.

Bingo is on this Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 3.00pm. For the Bingo to run successfully we need five volunteers to help out with this session. Please contact Patricia at the school.

A meeting will be held in the school for all parents on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 7.00pm to discuss the Parents Association and how to move it forward.

Netball will recommence for Primary 4-7 girls with Mrs Malone on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January between 3.10pm and 4.00pm each week

Extra Literacy and Numeracy classes for the Primary Six Children will commence on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> of January. The classes will be held on Monday and Wednesday after school between 3.15pm and 4.00pm. If anyone has any queries about the classes ask Mr Mc Caul.

Mini-club will continue to be on every day at a cost of £1.50 per child. The boys and girls get to do lots of fun art and craft activities during the week and every Friday a movie will be shown.

All after school activities will stop on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Last day of swimming will be Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, Primary 7 children will be swimming from 24<sup>th</sup> November.

Children must be supervised at all times when at school and due to large numbers of children seeking to remain inside at break and lunch times we would ask parents to consider keeping their children at home if they are too unwell to go outside. If your child has been sick we would ask that you send in a note explaining their absence for our records and for auditing purposes.

We would like to thank parents and grandparents for their efforts in keeping the front entrance of the school clear in the mornings. Everyone can continue to use both the chapel and hall car parks.

Milk money for November £4.41  
December £2.73

**Important dates**

6<sup>th</sup> December – Pantomime

8<sup>th</sup> December- Staff Development Day, school closed for all children.

30<sup>th</sup> November- School Open Night 7.00pm-8.00pm

21<sup>st</sup> December – School closes at 11.00 for all children

8<sup>th</sup> January – School reopens for all children

Yours faithfully

Donal McCaul  
Principal

Encs: Blank Incident Report Form, Parental Numeracy Questionnaire

