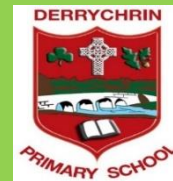




# DERRYCHRIN PS NEWSLETTER

## Christmas 2022



### CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE SHOW

Take a bow, the children of Derrychrin, with amazing performances at our Matinee and evening shows as we hosted our Christmas Carol Service. It was a special opportunity to celebrate the meaning of Christmas and enjoy the Christmas spirit as a school community experiencing a real family atmosphere in our wonderful school.

Unfortunately, with the poor weather conditions we could not go ahead with the outdoor performance at the Community Hub but the health and safety of everyone is always paramount. We are very fortunate to have a great school hall and a stage with a backdrop beautifully decorated with lights and stars. Siobhan our caretaker had the school looking great as always with many Christmas decorations on display throughout the school and our staff showcasing many wonderful festive displays with the children's artwork.

The children were fantastic in their practices, rehearsals and what a show they produced in both performances for the Matinee and again last night. The happiness and enjoyment were so evident in their smiling faces throughout the show. As a school community, we are extremely proud of each child, as they showcased their many talents. All we ever want is for our children is to 'Be the best they can be!' and we have no doubt these experiences will have further developed their self-confidence.

A lot of gratitude and appreciation must go to all the hard working, caring and dedicated teaching staff and non-teaching staff in preparing the children with their wonderful singing, dancing and instrumental music. A special word of thanks to Miss Hughes in leading the provision of music and singing across the school. It was lovely to see our school choir with pupils from P4-P7 take to the stage and sing two wonderful songs. Thank you also to Donal Canavan our Music tutor who continues to share his expertise with the P4-P7 children and the instrumental group weekly.

Several children were unable to perform in both shows due to sickness which was disappointing for them but as a school they were very much in our thoughts, and we hope they are feeling much better soon.

Thank you to members of our student council and P7 pupils in their roles of meeting and greeting our audience with a warm welcome and providing everyone with a programme.

A big thank you to our school secretary Gemma and to Deirdre for managing all the ticket sales, raffle tickets and cash donations.

Our wonderful PTA 'Friends of Derrychrin' are always so helpful and supportive towards the school. Like so many occasions before they assisted in many roles and sourced many brilliant prizes for the Christmas Raffle.

Special mention to Killian Conlan & Ballinderry Community Hub for their help, support and provision of additional seating and thank you to Ronan McGuckin and Jason McGeary for providing the transport of the seating.

Thank you to Michael Glackin who provided the sound and lights for both shows which really added to the occasion.

Special thanks to John O'Neill as always for taking photos on the night and capturing so many cherished memories.

Thank you to Paul Gunning for recording the show on the night which will be made available online very soon.

We have added photos from both performances, but we will share more in due course along with the video link.

Christmas is always a special time of year for our families, to treasure the joy and happiness of our children. We hope that everyone had a great experience, and we are already looking forward to next year!



## KIND DONATIONS & GENEROSITY

Our Carol Service was very much a team effort and would not have been possible without the support of our school community.

A massive thank you to all the local businesses and individuals who contributed towards our Carol Service, the Christmas Raffle and various school community events throughout the school year. We greatly appreciate their generosity and support. In addition to the sponsors who donated raffle prizes, we would also like to thank the following for their cash donations:

Colm Mullan- Bathe N.I.

Flame NI

Kevin McGuckin - CMG Plumbing

James Conway - J.C. Plastering

Patrick Conway- PC Haulage

Roisin Talbot - The Learning Hub

## CHRISTMAS DRAW WINNERS

It was great to have our 'Friends of Derrychrin' Chairperson Roisin Talbot and the Primary 7 pupils draw the winning tickets from the Christmas Raffle at the Carol Service. Mrs McGuckin 'Friends of Derrychrin' committee member and Singing Santa drew the winning tickets for the children's raffle which took place in school on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December. Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets especially during these difficult times. We are totally overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness of everyone. Congratulations to all the prize winners.

## **Christmas Draw 2022**

### **\*\* Prize Winners \*\***

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b> <b>Samsung Galaxy A8 Tablet</b> <b>WINNER: Larissa Mullan</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b> <b>Amazon Kindle Paperwhite</b> <b>WINNER: Agnes Nugent</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</b> <b>£100 O'Neill's Voucher</b> <b>WINNER: Fiona McIvor</b>
<b>Prize</b> <b>Car Enthusiasts Package</b> TGNi full Car Valet (£80-£100) Crossroad Tyres voucher Crossroad Fuels voucher <b>WINNER: Eimear Mitchell</b>	<b>Prize</b> <b>Sports Enthusiasts Package</b> £50 Sports Direct Voucher (Roisin & Paul Mullan) £30 Massarene Pro Golf Shop <b>WINNER: Hugh McIvor</b>	
<b>Prize</b> <b>Pamper Package 1</b> £20 Ocean Beauty Tan Voucher £30 Beauty Edit voucher <b>WINNER: Grace Quinn</b>	<b>Prize</b> <b>Pamper Package 2</b> Pamela Devlin Makeup Voucher Fresh Feet Reflexology Voucher <b>WINNER: Colin McGuckin</b>	<b>Prize</b> <b>Pamper Package 3</b> £50 O'Briens Chemist Voucher Studio 123 Voucher (Maria McVey) <b>WINNER: Nuala McCann</b>
<b>Prize</b> <b>Festive Hamper 1</b> Honey Hamper (Loughshore Honey) Bottle of Vodka & Bottle of Wine (Evergreen Social Club) <b>WINNER: Jack Bell</b>	<b>Prize</b> <b>Festive Hamper 2</b> JL Sweets Hamper & Christmas Wreath (Shauneen McElroy) <b>WINNER: Brogan Conlon</b>	<b>Prize</b> <b>Festive Hamper 3</b> £50 Spoilt Belle voucher Christmas Wreath (Anne McKee) Paws on the Lough voucher (Aimee McVey) <b>WINNER: Tanya Cassidy</b>
<b>PUPIL RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS</b>		
<b>Prize 1:</b> Activity NI -One week voucher for holiday camp. <b>WINNER: Eddie Smiley</b>	<b>Prize 3:</b> Funtastic gymnastics - 4-week lessons with Anna Higgins. <b>WINNER: Ellie Hughes</b>	<b>Prize 5:</b> Free Party or Activity at Ballinderry Community Hub <b>WINNER: Cian Conlan</b>
<b>Prize 2:</b> £50 Jungle Voucher <b>WINNER: Michael Mallon</b>	<b>Prize 4:</b> Derrychrin Stables Voucher <b>WINNER: Eadooin Quinn</b>	<b>Prize 6:</b> Ritz Cinema tickets <b>WINNER: Matthew Gordon</b>
Activity book & sweet pack winners: Jack Wilson, Brooklyn Cassidy & Macey O'Neill		

## PRIMARY 1 NATIVITY SHOW

Congratulations to our wonderful Primary 1 children who performed superbly in their Christmas Nativity Show. The children were absolutely fantastic and were all wee STARS! We are so proud of them. Thank you to all parents and family members who attended and we hope everyone enjoyed the show. Special mention to Mrs Tohill and classroom assistants Mary B, Maeve and Lisa who prepared the children so well as they performed confidently with smiling, happy faces throughout the performance. We were delighted to have the children and staff from Ballinderry Playgroup in attendance and we hope they enjoyed the show. Thank you to Margaret for providing beautiful treats and refreshments for everyone after the show.



## PRIMARY 1 OPEN MORNING

Thank you to all prospective Primary 1 children and parents who attended our Open Morning. After the Nativity Show, the prospective P1 children visited the P1 classroom, enjoyed some snacks and completed an art activity assisted by our responsible and helpful P7 pupils. Mr McElroy got opportunity to speak with the prospective parents and have a look around our wonderful school. We hope the children enjoyed the treat bags they received, and everyone enjoyed their visit, getting an insight to school life in our wonderful school.

OPEN DAY

## Derrychrin Primary School

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December  
9:30am - 11am

ENROLMENT FOR SEPTEMBER 2023  
For Prospective P1 Pupils and their Parents

Visit our website [www.derrychrins.org](http://www.derrychrins.org)  
Tel: 028 8673 7456



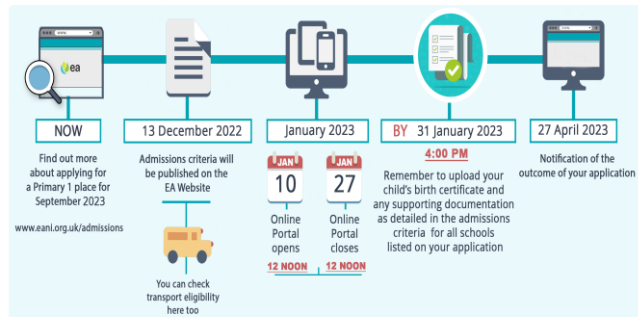
## PRIMARY 1 ENROLMENT 2023

Admissions criteria is now available for children starting P1 in September 2023. All forms are published on the EA website. [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk)  
The portal opens on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 12noon and closes on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 12noon  
Admissions can be completed online using a smartphone, tablet, laptop or computer.

 KEY DATES FOR PARENTS – APPLYING FOR PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION – SEPTEMBER 2023

Children born on or between 2 July 2018 and 1 July 2019 are compulsory school age in September 2023

Children born on or between 2 July 2019 and 1 July 2020 can apply for a place in a reception class



## GUIDED TOURS OF DERRYCHRIN

If any parents of prospective P1 pupils would like to visit our school to get a feel for school life in Derrychrin PS, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment for a tour of the school.



## ENROLMENT SEPTEMBER 2023

Is your child due to start Primary 1 in September 2023?

Please visit our school website [www.derrychrinps.org](http://www.derrychrinps.org) to complete a registration of interest for enrolment September 2023.

New parents to Derrychrin PS are very welcome to visit our inclusive school to experience the happy family atmosphere, the positive learning environment, view our excellent facilities and meet our caring and dedicated staff.

GUIDED TOURS AVAILABLE  
from

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December to Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January**  
Pre-booking essential. Please contact the school to make an appointment.  
Tel: 028 86737456

Email: [info@derrychrin.cookstown.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@derrychrin.cookstown.ni.sch.uk)

Find us on social media



@DerrychrinPS



Derrychrin Primary School

**"Where We Always Believe  
That We Will Achieve!!"**

## CLASS TEACHER INFORMATION

As you are all aware, Miss Moran who has been with us in Derrychrin PS since September. She will continue in her role as P6 teacher after Christmas and for the foreseeable future in Mrs Doyle's absence.

We would like to take this opportunity to send Mrs Hassan our best wishes as she goes off on maternity leave. We look forward to hearing about her baby news in January. We would like to welcome Mrs Kelly to Derrychrin PS who will take up the role of P4 teacher in Mrs Hassan absence.

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors had their term one meeting in the second week of November. We would like to new members Patrick Crozier, Pamela Devlin and Ciara Gordon. We would like to thank Paul Mallon, Mairead Cullen and Jean McCusker for their time and commitment during their term as governors.

Mrs. Geraldine Mullan	Chairperson & DE Rep.
Rev. Fr. Donnelly	Trustee
Mr. Colm Mc Elroy	Trustee
Mr. Pat Crozier	Trustee
Mrs. Pamela Devlin	Trustee
Mr. Jaralath Bell	EA Rep.
Mrs. Ciara Gordon	EA Rep.
Mr. Enda Daly	Parent Rep.
Mrs. Bridin Tohill	Teacher Rep.
Mr. Ciaran McElroy	Principal & Secretary

## CHRISTMAS DINNER & JUMPER DAY

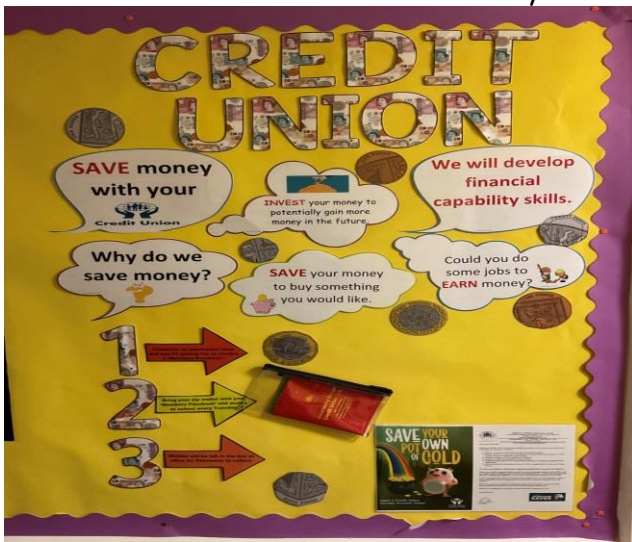
The whole school had a brilliant Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you again to our wonderful canteen staff Margaret, Ann-Marie and Colette, who treated all the pupils and staff to a beautiful dinner and dessert.



**BALLINDERRY BRIDGE CREDIT UNION**  
**SAVINGS**



Congratulations to all the savers in Derrychrin PS for Term 1B, as they had a total savings of £1929.50 for the six-week period from 2nd November -7th December. A fantastic amount of savings by all the children. Thank you to Philomena who continues to promote our local Credit Union and highlighting the important role it plays for the children and the school community.



**CREDIT UNION ART COMPETITION**  
**WINNERS**

Congratulations to all the winners of the Credit Union Art Competition. There was such a high standard with the pupils producing wonderful pieces of Art. Thank you to Philomena McGuckin for organising and presenting the fabulous prizes to the all the class winners.

**SPLIT THE POT**

With the generosity of everyone towards our Christmas Draw and Carol Service, we have decided not to hold our weekly 'Split the Pot' fundraiser once in December. Our winner was Cara-Rose Mullan who won £75. Our next 'Split the Pot' draw will take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January. Thank you for your continued support.

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023**  
School will finish for Christmas Holidays at 11:00am.

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023**  
School will reopen for ALL staff and pupils.

**P7 SWIMMING LESSONS**

Swimming lessons for Primary 7 pupils will commence on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January** for twelve weeks until **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023**. Please click on 'view slip' and complete the online consent issued on the Schools NI app.

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On behalf of all pupils, staff, and governors of Derrychrin PS we would like to thank everyone for all your support, encouragement, and co-operation. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. We hope and pray that the school community have a safe and peaceful Christmas.

*Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year*



*Wishing you and your family a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.*

*From everyone at Derrychrin Primary School.*