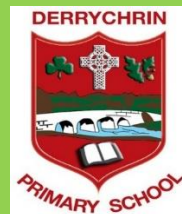




# DERRYCHRIN PS NEWSLETTER

## Christmas 2021



### CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE



What an amazing evening we had hosting our first outdoor Christmas Carol Service for Derrychrin Primary School. Christmas is always a special time of year for our families, to treasure the joy and happiness of our wonderful children. Unfortunately, due to the COVID pandemic, we were again unable to host our annual Christmas Show in school, but we were determined to celebrate this special time of year with our school community.

In association with our PTA 'Friends of Derrychrin', we wanted to make it a special night for everyone connected to the Derrychrin School Community and the Parish of Ballinderry, celebrating the meaning of Christmas and enjoying the Christmas spirit. The children in all classes were fantastic in their performances and as a school community, we are extremely proud of them all.

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, and the musicians in the tin whistle and guitar group. A special word of thanks to Miss Hughes and Mrs McGuckin for their additional planning and preparation of the Carol Service. Thank you also to Donal Canavan, our Music tutor who prepared our musicians superbly and continues to share his expertise with the children on a weekly basis. Massive thank you to our school secretary Gemma and to Deirdre for looking after the ticket sales, raffle tickets and donations.

Thank our wonderful PTA 'Friends of Derrychrin' who are always so helpful and supportive towards the school and who assisted in many roles on the night like they have done so on many previous occasions.

A huge thank you to Ballinderry Shamrocks GAC for providing the use of their facilities and their new Community Hub. Special mention to Killian Conlan, Martin McKinless and Kevin 'Moss' McGuckin for their support and assistance along with many other club members who assisted with various duties on the night. We are extremely grateful for their support. We would like to congratulate the club and community on the completion of their new Community Hub. It is a wonderful facility that will cater for the children of Derrychrin and the people of Ballinderry for many years to come.

Thank you to Sean McGeary/Martin McKinless for providing the use of the lorry which looked superb on the night displayed with many lights and decorations.

It also allowed for the children to perform on a raised platform for everyone to view.

Thank you to Michael Glackin who provided the sound and lights in testing weather conditions. It also meant those who remained in their cars were able to listen to the performances in the safety and comfort of their cars using the selected radio channel via the radio transmitter.

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

It was a wonderful end to the night when 'Singing Santa' arrived to sing some Christmas songs and to draw the winning tickets for the top three raffle prizes. Everyone in attendance will have experienced the real family atmosphere in Derrychrin and what school life is really like in our wonderful school. Along with the learning that takes place in the school setting, the children also get the opportunity to showcase their many talents and increase their confidence and self-esteem.

We hope that everyone had a great night, and we are already looking forward to next year!

## KIND DONATIONS & GENEROSITY

A massive thank you to all the following local businesses and individuals for their generous donations for our Christmas Draw and their continuous support to the school.

*James Conway- J.C. Plastering*

*Patrick Conway- Conway Haulage*

*Martin Mc Kinless/Sean McGeary- Use of Lorry.*

*Colm Mullan- Bathe N.I.*

*Brian & Claire Mc Kinless- Crossroad Fuels*

*Pat Crozier- Rosewood Bespoke Furniture*

*Joe & Clodagh Mc Kinless- Crossroad Tyres*

*Cathal Forbes- Forbes Spar Ardboe*

*Loretta Daly- Daly Kindness*

*Shauneen Mc Elroy- Sweet Hampers*

*Roisin Talbot- Learning Hub*

*Brian & Dolores Muldoon- Bridie's Chippy*

*John Wilson- Crafted Crib*

*Alice Coyle - Crib Figures*

## CHRISTMAS DRAW WINNERS

Congratulations to all the prize winners and thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets. We are totally overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness of everyone. All money raised will go towards new resources for the school.



**Derrychrin Primary School  
Christmas Draw 2021**

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



1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize
Apple iPad <b>Winner:</b> <b>Mary Wylie</b>	£100 O'Neill's Voucher <b>Winner:</b> <b>Ailise Musgrave</b>	Christmas Hamper <b>Winner:</b> <b>Jim Quinn</b>
<b>Prize</b> £50 <b>Winner:</b> <b>Aoife Croizer</b>	<b>Prize</b> £50 <b>Winner:</b> <b>Erin Hassan</b>	<b>Prize</b> £50 <b>Winner:</b> <b>Clare McCusker</b>
<b>Prize</b> £50 <b>Winner:</b> <b>Grace McVey</b>	<b>Prize</b> £50 <b>Winner:</b> <b>Senan Daly</b>	<b>Prize</b> JL Sweet Hamper <b>Winner:</b> <b>Niamh McVey</b>
<b>Prize</b> Crossroads Tyres £50 Voucher <b>Winner:</b> <b>Blaithin Doonan</b>	<b>Prize</b> Crib and Figures <b>Winner:</b> <b>Kathy McGuckin</b>	<b>Prize</b> £20 Voucher Bridie's Chippy <b>Winner:</b> <b>Kathleen Conway</b>

**A BIG thank you to local businesses and our families for your kind donations and your generous support!**

## PRIMARY 1 ENROLMENT 2022

Admissions criteria is now available for children starting P1 in September 2022. 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 2022 at 12noon and closes on **28<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 12noon**  
Admissions can be completed online using a smartphone, tablet, laptop or computer.

School Admissions 2022/23



Information for parents/guardians

Please see below key dates in admissions for year 2022/23. For parents/guardians the first date of note is the publishing of admissions criteria of schools on the EA website.

	Pre-School	Primary	Post-Primary
<b>STEP ONE</b> Admissions Criteria Published on Website	17 Dec 2021	17 Dec 2021	12 Jan 2022
<b>STEP TWO</b> Online Applications Open	10 Jan 2022	10 Jan 2022	1 Feb 2022
<b>STEP THREE</b> Online Applications Close	28 Jan 2022	28 Jan 2022	23 Feb 2022
<b>STEP FOUR</b> Notifications of Applications Outcome	28 April 2022 Stage One 16 June 2022 Stage Two	28 April 2022	21 May 2022

For more information on the admissions process please visit [www.eani.org.uk/admissions](http://www.eani.org.uk/admissions)

## 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 2022

**Is your child due to start Primary 1 in September 2022?**

Please visit our school website [www.derrychrinps.org](http://www.derrychrinps.org) to complete a registration of interest for enrolment September 2022.

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

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December to Thursday 27<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!!"**



# Fresh Little Minds

As part of our Health & Well-Being initiative this year, we are delighted to have Lorretta Daly from 'Fresh Little Minds' back again to deliver a four-week programme to our P3-P7 pupils in February and March

The GROW+ programme is specifically designed as an extension to the Fresh Little Minds GROW Programme. It aims to embed what was delivered in the four weeks GROW Programme by integrating the Fresh Little Minds AMBER Resilience and Wellbeing approach into the classroom

Following the delivery of the four weeks, it is expected that the children and the staff will have generated ideas and commitments to incorporate the AMBER resilience and wellbeing approach into their daily lives.

We are delighted we can provide this opportunity for our pupils, and we are confident that they will thoroughly enjoy it gaining a positive experience.

## P7 SWIMMING LESSONS

Swimming lessons for Primary 7 pupils will commence on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January** for twelve weeks until **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022**. Please click on 'view slip' and complete the online consent issued on the Schools NI app.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS TERM 2

We will be commencing our After School Clubs and extra-curricular programme for the P4 - P7 pupils in the New Year. All details will be finalised when we come back after the Christmas Holidays.

## BALLINDERRY BRIDGE CREDIT UNION

### SAVINGS

Congratulations to all the savers in Derrychrin PS for Term 1B, as they had a total savings of £3,008.40 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.

## PARKY THE MAGICIAN

As a Christmas treat for all the children, 'Parky the Magician' will be in school **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December**. He will entertain the boys and girls with his range of magical tricks and the children will get an opportunity to participate in some of his performances. He will no doubt keep everyone in laughs throughout and there will be a fantastic show in store for everyone!

## 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 in December as originally planned. Our next 'Split the Pot' draw will take place on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January. All envelopes entered for December will be carried forward to the January draw. Thank you for your continued support.

## CHRISTMAS DINNER & JUMPER DAY



The whole school had a brilliant Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you again to our wonderful canteen staff Margaret, Ann-Marie, Colette, and Siobhan who treated everyone to a beautiful dinner and dessert.



## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021

School will finish for Christmas Holidays at 11:00am.

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022

School will reopen for ALL pupils.

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This year continues to be a very difficult time for everyone but a massive thank you to our whole school community for the hard work, dedication and support that has brought us safely to this point.

We would like to commend all the children who have been fantastic. They have engaged with their work in a happy, positive manner and followed all COVID guidelines.

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 whole school community have a safe and peaceful Christmas.



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

*From everyone at Derrychrin Primary School.*