

Education Authority Western Region

**STRABANE CONTROLLED PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

43 Derry Road

Strabane

Co. Tyrone

BT828DX

Tel. (028) 71 382510

Fax. (028) 71 382525

22nd November 2023

Principal Mrs. C Thompson



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoebox appeal

Thank you to everyone who very generously contributed to the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal this year. A grand total of 81 shoeboxes were collected from our school this afternoon. In addition to this, several boxes were completed online, bringing our overall total to 86 shoeboxes. We also created some of our own shoeboxes in school.

Pupils from the Eco-Committee enjoyed putting together shoeboxes for boys and girls with items that were generously donated to our school. Thank you to these pupils for their help and hard work!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the appeal. Each shoebox gift makes such a difference to the lives of so many children across the world.

Pantomime

December is always a busy month and with this in mind I wish to inform you of upcoming events. Due to the ongoing industrial action, the pantomime will take place but during revised times, these are outlined below. Our pupils will be able to come to school as normal and remain in school for the whole day with collection time likely to be approximately 3pm on the 15th, 18th and 19th December.

- This year's pantomime '**The Wizard of Oz**' will take place on three occasions:
 - Friday 15th December at 1pm
 - Monday 18th December at 1pm
 - Tuesday 19th December at 1pm.

The exception to the running of the school day will be nursery as their day will not commence until 10.30am but will run until the end of the school day with collection at 3pm on Friday 15th, Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th.

All pupils can be collected from the **JUNIOR** playground at the end of each show.

Please note, parents are not permitted to enter the classrooms.

There will be a recording of the school pantomime available to purchase.

www.strabaneps.co.uk

Awarded May 2022



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Last year, the PTFA introduced an online booking system for tickets. This was very successful. We are working towards the same idea this year and further details will be supplied very soon regarding purchasing tickets.

Santa Daily Mile

The Daily Mile Santa Run will take place in school on Friday 1st December.

Pupils can wear Christmas / winter jumpers whilst taking part.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner will take place in school on Thursday 7th December and will cost £2.60 for children not entitled to free school meals (£2.50 for nursery pupils). This will consist of a traditional Christmas dinner and a dessert. Pupils are permitted to wear Christmas or winter jumpers on this day.

Digital Admissions Applications

Nursery

Children born on or between 2 July 2020 and 1 July 2021 (inclusive) or who come under the deferral circumstances, are eligible for a place in our nursery unit.

P1

Any child whose fourth birthday falls on or before 1 July 2024 will have reached compulsory school age in September 2024. Children who are currently in our nursery or the playgroup will need to apply for a place.

If your child is starting pre-school or primary school in September 2024, you can apply for their place online from **Tuesday 9 January 2024 at 12 noon**.

The closing date and time for pre-school and primary one applications will be **12 noon on Friday 26 January 2024**.

Further information on the admissions procedure will be available on the EA website under Admissions from Tuesday 12th December 2023: www.eani.org.uk/admissions

Transferring from Year 7 to Year 8 in September 2024

Information on the procedures for post primary school admissions in September 2024 will be available on the EA website on Thursday 11th January 2024.

Rugby tots

We are delighted to introduce Rugby tots to our pupils this year. The sessions have commenced, and the children are thoroughly enjoying the skills learned weekly.



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Awarded May 2022



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**"Safe, Secure,
Successful"**

Debutots

For a second year running we are delighted to have Debutots in school for our younger pupils. Debutots help our children to:

- build confidence
- develop language skills
- develop communication skills
- promote a love of stories
- stretch imaginations
- promote friendships
- engage communities



Cricket

Currently, pupils in Year 4/5 and Year 5/6 have commenced cricket coaching sessions in schools with coaches from NWCU. Pupils are learning many new skills and look forward to competing in upcoming events.



Multi-skills

Through Extended schools we are also delivering multi-skills coaching sessions led by our highly esteemed sports coach for every child from Year 1 – Year 7 receiving a block of training.

Half Day

School and Nursery **will close half day**, 11.30 - 12 noon, on Thursday 21st December 2023. School dinners are optional that day but will be served between 11.00am-11.30am for anyone who wishes. School and Nursery will reopen on **Thursday 4th January 2024**.

Thank you, for your support and cooperation, on all of these matters.

Yours faithfully,

C Thompson

C Thompson
Principal

NB, we have been notified of a potential half day strike on Wednesday 29th November. Further updates to follow.

Dates for your diary

- 25th November, Final P7 SEAG test
- 1st December – The Daily Mile Santa Run
- 7th December, Christmas Dinner and Christmas jumper day
- 15th December Pantomime at 1pm
- 18th & 19th December Pantomime at 1pm
- 21st December school finishes half day 11.30am – 12 noon.
- Thursday 4th January 2024 – Term 2 school reopens for pupils.

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