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What’s the Buzz in December?

Christmas preparations are well and truly underway here in our Nursery – as you can probably see by the trails of glitter in the corridor and Nursery classrooms. We are all very excited to perform “Our First Nativity” play in the Chapel for mammies and daddies (and of course grandparents too!) We have a very busy month ahead so here’s a few reminders of what else is happening in our busy schedule …

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**Nursery Nativity Play**

One of the highlights of the school year for Nursery is the Nativity Play. This year we will be performing the play in St. Mary’s Chapel and we are very excited! “Our First Nativity” will take place on **Tuesday 12th December.** Miss Lynch’s class at 11.00am and Mrs O’Connor’s class at 12.00pm**.** Everyone is welcome! Please encourage your child to practice their part or songs at home. **Children should be collected and taken home after the Nativity.**

**Monthly Theme**

The theme for this month is: Christmas/The Nativity Story and the colours **red** and **gold**.

We have been getting into the Christmas spirit in class and we’re being busy little elves decorating and making beautiful Christmas art to bring home!

**Suggested activities to do with your child**

1. Take your child into town to look at and talk about the Christmas decorations, and window displays.
2. Junk modelling. Use empty toilet roll / kitchen roll holders, glue, red paper and cotton wool to make a “Santa” at home.
3. Talk to your child about the importance of **giving** as well as **receiving** at Christmas.
4. Language can be greatly developed during this month by simply talking to your child about the Nativity Story, Santa, Christmas, presents, etc.

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**Big Bedtime Read – Supper with Santa**

On **Monday 11th December** our children are invited to come to school for *Supper with Santa* from 5.00pm – 6.30pm. Children should come to school in their PJs and they will have Christmas stories read to them by Mrs Claus before having supper with Santa. They might even receive a wee treat from him too! Unfortunately, parents will **not** be allowed to stay at this event.



**Sperrin Fun Farm**

We will be taking the children to Winter Wonderland on Wednesday 6th December. This will be at Sperrin Fun Farm. The children will leave school by bus at 9.30am and will be back in time for 1.00pm pick up. Children will be asked to bring a packed lunch with them and any child entitled to free school meals will be provided with one. The cost of this trip is £12.

**OPEN DAY!**

Our Open Day for Nursery and P1 will take place on Friday 8th December. Parents can take children straight to the hall when they are collected from Nursery. This is a great opportunity to see what our school has to offer and to ask any questions you may have.

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 **School Christmas Raffle**

Our Christmas Raffle is now up and running with tickets on sale from your class teacher and Catherine at the office.

There is a great selection of prizes this year.

Tickets are £1 a strip and all money raised to go towards school funds.



**Christmas Jumper Day**

On Thursday 7th December, the children will wear Christmas jumpers into school and will also enjoy their Christmas dinner. All **Christmas dinners for the children will be paid for by the school.**

**Breakfast with Santa**

We will have a special visitor to school on Wednesday 20th December. Parents and children are invited to the school hall (in the main building) to enjoy their breakfast with Santa.

There is no cost for this event as it will be paid for through school funds.

**Nursery Birthdays**

Happy birthday to all these children who have birthdays during the month of December.

***13th – Nova Mc Gowan***

***23rd – Dylan O Kane***

**Donations for Creggan Day Centre**

Over the past few years, we have asked our parents to buy a small gift from people in our community rather than gifts for staff in the school. We would love to continue this tradition in 2023 as we still have a lot of vulnerable people in our community and we would like to bring them a little joy this Christmas. We ask that, if you wish to, to leave a gift such as socks, PJs, soaps, dressing gowns and slippers, etc. in a collection box in the foyer. We will then bring these gifts to the elderly and Dementia groups who attend Creggan Day Centre along with cards and pictures that the children will make.

**Dates for your diary**

**6th –** Sperrin Fun Farm & Supper with Santa

**7th** – Christmas Jumpers and Christmas dinner

**8th –** Open Day

**11th** – Supper with Santa

**12th –** Nativity in St Mary’s Chapel

**20th –** Breakfast with Santa

**22nd –** 12pm finish for holidays

**5th Jan** – School

Reopens for pupils

**Primary 1 Applications**

Online applications for Primary 1 (and Nursery) will open on 9th January. Please contact the school office or ask your class teacher if you have any questions about the online process for Primary 1.