



St. Colman's Primary School
and
All Saints' Nursery Unit
(Annaclone)

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Progress Through Partnership, Leading To Excellence



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Dear Parents/Carers

With Christmas nearly upon us, the children are becoming very excited and looking forward to their holidays. We are working very hard this year to give them the same magical Christmas traditions, experiences and feelings that they have become accustomed to down the years here in St. Colman's and All Saints'. We will all miss gathering together as a community mid-December in the chapel for our show or in the school hall for the Nursery performance. We know how important it is to give our children these opportunities therefore we have developed a 'bubble nativity script' and the show will go ahead this year albeit virtually. ***The Innkeepers Breakfast*** will be streamed via the schools Youtube channel. We look forward to you all tuning in from the comfort of your own living rooms on **Thursday 17th of December at 7pm.**

Nativity Filming Day

The videographer will visit school on Tuesday 8th of December to film ALL of our classes from NU to P7.

Wee Critters Outdoor Classroom Workshop (NU – P4)

Wee Critters is a fully mobile and professional interactive animal education service which operates throughout Northern Ireland. <https://www.weecritters.org/>

Allan the Explorer takes you on a wild adventure and introduces you to his amazing animal friends along the way. Allan will perform a series of workshops with all of our children from NU – P4 on **Monday 14th of December.** There is a cost of £3 per child for the workshop.

Please reference online payments of £3 CRITTERS

P4 First Holy Confession

Father Andrew has expressed his wish to mark the Holy Season of Advent by prioritising the Sacramental journey of our current Primary 4 cohort. As you well know the children were unable to make their First Confession in March 2020 due to the first period of lockdown and the closures of all schools and churches. Subject to the churches being reopened again after December 11th 2020, Andrew has proposed that the children receive the Sacrament across two days on the 15th and 16th of December in Annaclone Chapel at 1pm.



Homework

The last night of homework for 2020 will be Thursday 10 December. There will be no homework given in the weeks of 14 and 21 December.

Holidays

School will close on Monday 21 December at 11.00am and will reopen for Term 2 on Wednesday 6 January 2021.

Admissions

The Pre-School and Primary One online admissions portal will open on 7 January 2021 and close on 29 January for applications for the academic year commencing September 2021. Further information on the process will be available on the EA website from 18 December.

Christmas Party Box Dinner

Christmas dinner this year will be on **Thursday 10th December**. Children may wear their Santa hats, Reindeer antlers or Elf ears!

Santa Visit

Santa will visit the school on **Friday 11th of December**. Santa has heard so much about our *Mile A Day* children and our brilliant school walkway that he wants to see it for himself! **Children can wear their Christmas jumpers to school and nursery on this date.**

Christmas Fundraiser (non-uniform)

Burns Skills School will be in school to work with our children on **Friday 18th December**. Boys and Girls will undertake a sponsored multi-sports activity day. All money raised will go towards covering the Nativity Production and we will make a Christmas donation towards The Southern Hospice.

I want to commend you all for your support and effort in helping us in the fight against the spread of Coronavirus within our school community. With your help we have successfully managed the situation and have remained relatively unscathed, and I want to say a massive thank you to you all. Together we have ensured our children and staff have remained safe and mindful of others. We have been open every day and for all classes since the re-start in August. This valued partnership remains unique to our school community here in Annaclone and we would be much the worse off without it.

On behalf of all the staff may I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas. We hope and pray, that with medical advances towards a suitable vaccine, we will enjoy a new year filled with good health, joy and blessings.

Take care and stay safe,
Kind regards,
Mr K O'Neill

