



December 2020

Theme -

Our theme for December is '**Christmas**'

We are really busy already learning about the Nativity Story and singing lots of Christmas songs. We will be having lots of fun making some Christmas Decorations, and we will be wrapping presents in Santa's Kingdom and Home Corner role play areas this month. We are decorating Christmas Trees, making magic reindeer food and modelling special birthday cakes for Baby Jesus! We will be talking about the star shape, with its straight lines and points.

Stories – As well as the Nativity Story, we will be reading stories about 'Santa', 'Threadbear', and 'The Elf on the Shelf.'

Colour –

Our colours this month are **gold and silver**. Please encourage your child to look out for gold and silver objects in their environment.

Outdoor Play

The weather is definitely getting colder! We want to play outdoors as much as possible, so please remember to send your child's coat with them each day, along with a scarf, hat and gloves as we move to icier conditions! We are encouraging the children's independence when putting on and removing their coat – they have such a sense of achievement when they master this. I know it takes a lot longer, but please let them practise this at home too.

If your child is wearing wellies to school please send a change of shoes for inside with them too.

Thank you

School Photographer

The School Photographer will be in school this Thursday to take individual pictures of the children in Nursery. You should have received details of how to register for this via Seesaw. **Please note that**

ONLY children who have been registered for a photograph will have one taken on this day.

Registration closes on Wednesday 2nd December at 7.00pm.

Christmas Presents for Staff – Donations to St Vincent de Paul Charity

We are so thankful that some parents wish to buy presents for staff at Christmas, however this year, in light of the pandemic, we are asking that you do not send presents in, but instead make a small donation to a local charity who do amazing work in our community.

St Vincent de Paul provide invaluable practical support for the many families in our immediate community who may need extra help this Christmas time. If you would like to make a small donation to them in lieu of buying staff presents, please transfer the money to our Nursery Account with the reference **SVP**. We will then write a cheque to them from the account prior to the Christmas Holidays.

Thank you in advance

Christmas Cards

We have sent home a list of names of the children in your child's class to help you when writing Christmas Cards to their classmates. We will distribute these to the children on your child's behalf.

Open Day

Unfortunately we will not be able to offer an Open Day for new parents and children to have a look around our Nursery. We are hoping to produce a 'Virtual' Open Day, that we will share with prospective new parents via facebook and our website.

If any of your friends or neighbours have children who will be eligible to start pre-school in September 2021 please ask them to contact us to join our mailing list. We will then contact them to give them details about how and when to apply for a space in our Nursery School.

Enrolment for Nursery and Primary Schools for September 2021

The Education Authority are encouraging parents to apply online for a place in Nursery or Primary School for their child in September 2021. There will be a Parent Portal available at www.eani.org.uk from Thursday 7th January 2021 at 12 noon. The closing date for applications will be Friday 29th January at 12.00 noon. You will receive more details on how to apply for a place from the Nursery or Primary School you are applying to, check out their websites for access to their Virtual Open Days.

Christmas Nativity

We have been busy practising our Nativity Plays, which we hope to record for you and send home for you to watch and share with your extended family, as we didn't want your child – or you – to miss out on this special part of the Nursery School Year ☺

Car parking

As we are one of three schools who share our site, we understand that the traffic can be very heavy at drop off and pick up times. We are asking that parents please show consideration of others when parking at our entrance. As staff have different starting and finishing times to cater with different session times, we are asking that parents or carers do not block our vehicle entrance by parking across our gate. Please also show consideration for the buses who arrive at Dunclug College by not parking in a space that blocks their thoroughfare. Thank you!

Christmas Jumper Day

Children may wear a Christmas Jumper on Thursday 10th December, to raise money for St Vincent de Paul. Suggested donation is £1, which can be sent to school on this date. Please do not feel that you have to buy something especially – the children can come in non-uniform if they do not have a Christmas Jumper!

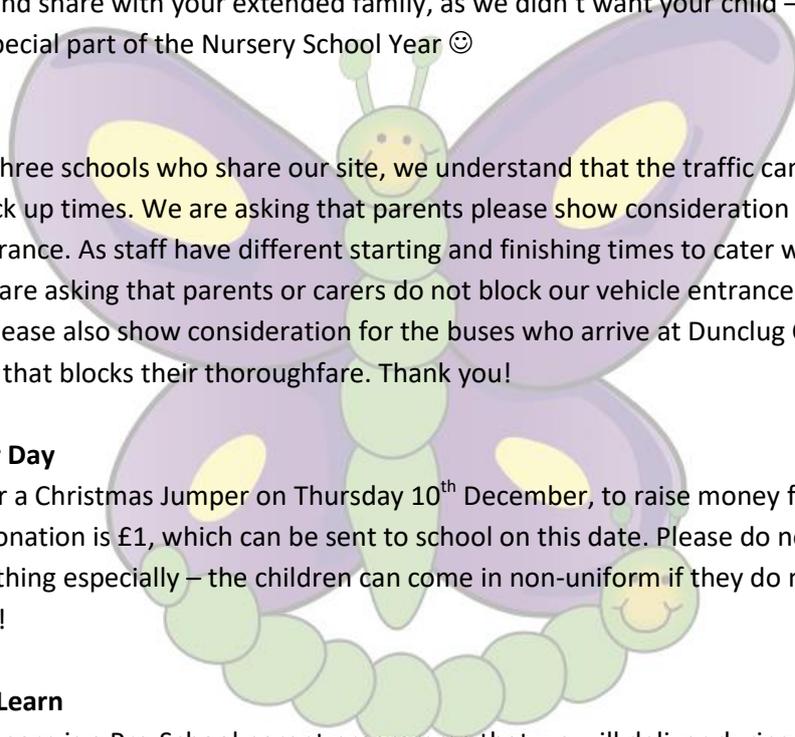
Getting Ready to Learn

Getting Ready to Learn is a Pre-School parent programme that we will deliver during this school year. The format will be slightly different this year, instead of providing home lending packs we will be gifting a pack to your child to enable us to promote home learning. To sign up for the programme, Parents are asked to complete a baseline survey via SurveyMonkey. I will send a link to the survey via Seesaw this week.

Upcoming Events and Important dates –

Thursday 3rd December – School Photographer will be in Nursery

Thursday 10th December – Christmas Jumper Day, for St Vincent de Paul Charity





Birthday Boys and Girls

Happy Birthday to all of these special boys and girls who will be celebrating their birthday this month

Yellow Class – Kane

Caoimhin

Red Class - Jack

Blue Class – Evie-Rae

Sara



On behalf of the Governors and Staff of our Nursery, I would like to wish you and your family a Happy and Healthy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Pamela Muir – Principal

December Songsheet

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger,
No crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus,
Lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky,
Look down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus,
Asleep on the hay.



Jingle Bells

Jingle bells, Jingle bells,
Jingle all the way,
Oh what fun it is to ride
On a one horse open sleigh,
Oh Jingle bells, Jingle bells,
Jingle all the way,
Hurrah for dear old Santa Claus
And hurrah for Christmas Day.



We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas,
And a Happy New Year!



Christmas Pudding

Christmas Pudding, Christmas Pudding
Steaming Hot, Steaming Hot,
Sprinkle on the sugar, sprinkle on the sugar, Eat the lot, eat the lot

Five Little Happy Elves

Five Little Happy Elves,
Danced round the workshop shelves,
Looking for lots of jobs to do,
Bang, saw!
One little Happy Elf, Fell off the worktop shelf,
Then there were only four little Happy Elves,
Bang, saw!

