



Welcome to Bush Primary School, and Nursery Unit



November & December News 2017

Please keep this news sheet for reference – it includes many important dates!

Please keep checking on our website at www.bushprimaryschool.co.uk

Photos from each class showing what the children have been up to and their achievements, Notes to Parents, Holiday Lists, Dinner Menus, News Sheets, Monthly Award photos a weekly diary and much more can be found on the website.

Carols 4 All at St Anne's Church

The P4 – P7 Choir will be taking part in this service on Sunday 3rd December at 3.30pm. All are welcome to come along for what is a very popular and meaningful way to introduce the Christmas season in our community.

Cups /Shields:

Any cups / shields awarded at Prize Giving in June on a joint basis should be passed on prior to the Christmas Holidays.

Open Evening for Nursery September 2018 & Primary 1 September 2018 This will be held on Monday 4th December 4.30 pm – 6.30pm.

Both the Nursery and the School will be open for prospective parents and pupils to visit.

Please note that application forms for both Nursery and Primary will be available from Monday 4th December and must be returned to school with a copy of your child's birth certificate by 12 noon on Wednesday 10th January 2018.

School Christmas Dinner will be on Thursday 14th December, normal price of £2.60 Money as normal please, week beginning 11th December.

If your child is NOT intending to take dinner on this date please ask them to tell their teacher or for the younger children please send in a short note to confirm. (by Friday 8th please)

TRIPS & EVENTS

P5 trip to Tesco Tuesday 14th November

P4 visiting Windmill IPS on Thursday 16th November, morning only.

P2 at Speedwell Thursday 30th November (with Windmill IPS)

P1 Winter Wonderland at Speedwell Friday 15th December (with Windmill IPS)

Post Box will be in the Foyer from Monday 11th December to Friday 15th December for the children to send cards to each other. Envelopes must have names and classes on the front.





P1 – P7 Christmas Variety Concert, will take place in the School Hall on Tuesday 12th December at 7pm, Wednesday 13th December at 9.30am and again on Wednesday evening at 7pm. All details about tickets will be sent out on a separate note.

On Wednesday 13th December all children can go home at 2pm. The bus will run as normal at 3pm for any parent who cannot collect their child at the earlier time.

NB Nursery Christmas Play in the Nursery on Friday 15th December at 10.00am.

After School Clubs November, December & January

Netball Club, Tuesday 7th November to Tuesday 28th November.

Drama club for P4 & P5 will start on Thursday 4th January from 3 – 4pm for 6 weeks.

Drama Club for P3 from 2 – 3pm will start Thursday 4th January for 6 weeks.

NON - UNIFORM DAYS

Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th December. **(No contribution required.)**

Holidays

School closes at 11.50am for P1 – P3 children and any older brothers and sisters and 12.00 noon for P4 – P7 children on Wednesday 20th December (no school dinner) (bus available) and reopens at 9.00 am on **Thursday 4th January 2018.**

Parking and travel around school.

As we enter the winter months with dark, dull mornings and slippery conditions it is essential for the safety of the pupils that all parents and carers read and follow this information carefully.

If you are not the person who normally drops off and collects your child then please share this note with those who do.

- At any time within the school grounds and in the vicinity of the school, speed must be kept to an absolute minimum.
- The school bus bay must be kept clear at 8.45am and 3pm and at 12 noon on early closings.
- The small gate is for pedestrians, children or adults should not be walking in through the large gate, particularly now in slippery icy conditions.
- When leaving the school grounds remember cars/ vehicles may be coming from the right ie from the top of Beechill.
- Parents must park in the car park outside the Nursery building. (There is a disabled space in the staff car park for registered blue badge holders.)

Pupils P1- P3 must be collected by parents at the small gate; children will not be permitted to leave this area without a parent or carer.

Swimming

Swimming lessons for P5 end on Wednesday 29th November and for P6 on Friday 24th November.





Snow/Emergency Closure, Bush PS & NU Winter 2017 - 2018

History: In the last fourteen years this school has only had to close for two days because of heavy snowfall. However, it is best that we all know the procedure. The recent closures due to concerns regarding Ophelia were put in place by the Education Authority. In the absence of an Education Minister this may reoccur should there be adverse weather conditions.

Main reasons for closure:

- PSNI/Met Office warning to only travel if absolutely essential.
- Adequate number of staff able to be in attendance.

Can emergency services access the school quickly and safely should the need arise during the school day?

Notification of closure:

Firstly, a message will be placed on our school website
www.bushprimaryschool.co.uk

- Secondly, by text message to all families using the school text messaging service. (This service uses the main mobile contact number which has been given to school. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that school is notified of any changes to contact numbers. A few text messages have been sent out recently if you did not receive these please contact the school office to see which mobile number we hold for you)

Thirdly by notification to BBC NI News who will produce a list. A list of closures will be found at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsni>

School Bus:

- If the bus does not come out to bring your child to school, assume (unless there has been a significant thaw) that it will not be bringing your child home and make arrangements to collect your child from school.

If it snows significantly during the course of the day assume there will be no bus in the afternoon and make arrangements to collect your child from school. The drivers do try to keep us up to date so you can also check with school.

On days when a **significant** fall occurs during the day we will try to send all children home at 2pm in order to allow staff time to travel home in daylight and also to reduce parental journeys.

It would be **highly unusual** that school would close for snow but if you are in doubt, do not set out in the morning until you are sure school is open. A slightly later start will be acceptable.

Remember, staff may also be delayed so when dropping off your child, check teachers are present before you drive off. If we do get some snow, send your child to school with Wellingtons, hats, gloves etc so that those who wish to do so, can make a snowman!

