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| November & December 2018 Newsletter |
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Windmill Integrated Primary School



# Upcoming Events

**November 30**

Non-Uniform Day

£1 for privilege

**December 21**

Non-Uniform Day

£1 for privilege

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| **Holidays**The school will be closed on the following dates:21st December 2018 at 12 noon school closes for the Christmas Holiday.School reopens on Monday 7th January 2019 |

30 Old Eglish Road, DUNGANNON, Co. Tyrone, BT71 7BE

www.windmillips.com Tel: 028 87 727277

**Please keep checking on our school website at** [**www.windmillips.com**](http://www.windmillips.com)**.**

**Telephone System**

We are currently in the process of installing a new telephone system. At the moment we do not have an answer phone facility. It is envisaged that the new system will be up and running properly by the end of the school day on Wednesday 28th November 2018.

**Vineyard Foodbank**

Thank you to all those who sent in non-perishable food items for our Harvest assembly. Miss Cheryl Roberts from the Vineyard came in to school to receive the items.

**School Meals**

The price of school meals cost £2.70 per day or £13.50 per week. To save valuable secretarial time meals money should always be brought in on Monday or first day of school week in a sealed envelope with your child’s name and the day(s) they are having meals clearly labelled. **Please send in the correct amount as change will not be given.** Cheques for dinner money should be made payable to **Windmill Integrated Primary School.**

**If your child has an allergy you must obtain written confirmation from your doctor and forward this information to the staff in the kitchen.**

**Milk**

The cost of school milk for next term (January – March 2019) is **£11.76** per child. Orders must be placed by **Wednesday 12th December**. Cheques for milk should be made payable to the Education Authority - Southern Region.

**Policies**

Throughout the course of the year, members of staff, the pupil council, parents and Board of Governors will be reviewing a number of policies. This month we will be reviewing and updating our Concerns and Complaints Policy.

**School website**

Hopefully many of the answers to your queries can be found on our school web-site. Please keep a close eye on it as you never know what may pop up.

You can also download our School App. The ‘**Schools Northern Ireland’ app** can be downloaded from the App Store or as an Android App on Google Play.

The school website and its contents can be translated into a number of different languages using the **Google Translate button** which can be found at the top of the website.

**Remember to tick the box to receive notifications in settings.**

**Attendance**

The Department of Education are asking us to pursue reasons for absence from any child who misses a day this year. To aid us in this task I would ask that you send in a note on your child’s return to school following a period of absence detailing the reason(s) why and the likely duration. Please note that the absence of any child due to a holiday must be recorded on our system as unauthorised. Please try to ensure holidays do not coincide with term time.

Any medical/dental appointments should be made where possible outside of school hours.

**Absences for appointments etc**

All children leaving during the school day for appointments etc must be signed out.

**OPEN AFTERNOON**

An **OPEN AFTERNOON** for prospective Nursery and Primary 1 September 2019 intake is scheduled to take place from **2-15pm-4.15pm on Monday 17th December 2018.**

**NURSERY UNIT/PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS**

Application forms for both Nursery and Primary will now be completed online. The Education Authority ‘Portal’ to do this will be open from Wednesday 2nd January at 10.00am until midnight on Thursday 31st January 2019. A copy of your child’s birth certificate will still have to be sent in to school. Please ensure that you have also completed a Pre-enrolment form for Windmill.

 **Non-uniform Day**



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|  Reminders**Clothing Bank**Please donate all your unwanted clothes to the school clothing bank at the front of the school and help raise much needed funds for the school.**Medicine**Medicine should not be sent into school in your child’s school bag. Please see your child’s teacher. All medicine should be labelled with child’s name and the correct dosage. For long term medications i.e. inhalers a medical form must be filled in. These can be obtained from the school office.**Jewellery**The only jewellery children should wear in school, are a watch or stud ear-rings. No jewellery should be worn on days when there is P.E. **Data Sheets**If you have changed you address or telephone number it is vital you let us know this particularly in the event of an emergency. Up to date mobile numbers are essential for our text messaging service.**PE KIT**Please ensure your child wears a proper PE Kit, clearly labelled, brought in to school on a Monday and taken home to be washed on a Friday. |
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Our non-uniform day in November will be held on Friday 30th November 2018.

Our non-uniform day in December will be held on Friday 21st December 2018.

Please send in £1 with your child. Our pupil council and eco-council representatives rely on this money to help them make improvements throughout the school.

Money raised to date will go towards erecting:

1. a bicycle storage facility, enabling those children who wish to cycle or scoot to school to park safely. This bicycle storage facility is currently being erected beside the pedestrian entrance.
2. a seating area to replace the Windmill Logo.

**Eco-Council News**

Our Eco-Council obtained 420 saplings from The Woodland Trust and these have been planted at the back of the school. It is hoped that these saplings will create an area that will entice a number of different pollinators onto our school premises.

We are delighted to announce that our school has recently received the Green Tree Silver Award. The group is now working towards the Gold Award.

On Saturday 20th October we had a very successful Eco morning. Pupils, parents, staff and BOGs worked alongside Mr Peter Brown from An Creagain to maintain Bear Woods and Big Bear Woods. Trees were pruned and mulched, willow cut and woven to make a new tunnel and the Windmill Logo at the front of the school was demolished to make way for a new seated area. Refreshments were served to all those in attendance. Heartfelt thanks is extended to all those who assisted in any way. What a transformation!

**80’s Disco**

Parents Council held a very successful 80’s Disco at the Dungannon Swifts on Saturday 10th November to mark Windmill’s 30th Anniversary. Everyone had a great night’s craic and dressed up for the occasion. Sincere thanks must be extended to all those who organised the event, worked tirelessly behind the scenes and supported it. Particular mention to Mrs Jill Scullion and her husband, Brian.

**Young Enterprise**

The Primary 3 class was involved in the Young Enterprise project. Mr Peter Lant, Education Officer at The Hill of the O’Neill, worked alongside the children and delivered the ‘Our Community’ programme. All those involved received a certificate on Monday 19th November.

**BIG SMALL STORIES Project**

On Thursday 22nd November Mrs Donnelly, Mrs Corr and Mrs Ferguson travelled to Lagan College for the Official Launch of the Film and Book on The BIG SMALL STORIES PROJECT. The Big Small Stories was a project aimed at capturing, recording and archiving the memories and experiences of the people behind the foundation and development of integrated schools. Through oral history interviews and the collection of images and other heritage material from integrated schools, teachers, pupils, parents, principals, governors and the whole school community embarked on an exciting journey which explored and uncovered the history of integrated education.

 **Birthday cakes**

In order to ensure the well- being of those children with specific allergies and medical needs we can no longer allow birthday cakes to be brought into school for sharing with classmates.

**Football**

We are delighted to inform you that Miss Judith Reid (IFA) will be continuing football coaching with children from Primary 1 – Primary 5 every Wednesday till at least the end of December 2018. Due to funding cuts this worthwhile initiative may finish at Christmas. Please ensure your child has his/her P.E. kit in school.

**A.Q.E.**

Test 1 took place on Saturday 10th November

Test 2 took place on Saturday 24th November

Test 3 is scheduled to take place on Saturday 1st December.

**GL Assessment**

Test 1 took place on Saturday 17th November.

The supplementary test is scheduled to take place on Saturday 8th December.

Wishing all the Primary 7 pupils every success in the above tests.

**Parking**

W**e have two disabled parking spaces in front of the school and one in front of the nursery building**. These should only be used by those who genuinely need them. **The staff car park is for staff cars and disabled badge holders only**. There is a visitors car park and there are bays at the front of the school, please use these.

I would ask that you:

* Do not park along the curb blocking the entrance and exit points.
* Respect the one way system in place.
* Do not park around the junction at Dunclare Park.

The school has a limited number of off road parking spaces, however with a little consideration and patience there is no reason why this current system should not run smoothly. The safety of the children is paramount.

**Changed your address or mobile telephone number?**

If you have changed your address or mobile telephone number please let us know. Up to date mobile telephone numbers are essential for our text messaging service and to enable us to contact you in an emergency.

**Emergency Weather Plan**

If there is a forecast that gives severe weather for the following day, **firstly** the Principal (or Vice Principal in her absence) will place a message on our school website [www.windmillips.com](http://www.windmillips.com) .

**‘Download the Schools NI App to receive notifications’**

**Secondly** by text message, to all families and staff using the school text messaging service. This service uses the main mobile contact number which has been given to the school. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that school is notified of any changes to contact numbers.

**Thirdly** by notification to BBCNI News who will produce a list. A list of closures will be found at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsni>. If we do get snow you should send your child to school with wellingtons/snow boots, hat and gloves etc.so that those who wish to do so get the opportunity to go outside.

However, if there is doubt as to whether or not the school will be open, staff and children should come in as normal unless conditions where they live mean they are blocked in or that driving conditions are hazardous.

A member of the senior management team will monitor the situation at school and make a decision on whether or not to keep the school open or make arrangements to get children home who have arrived at school. Staff are expected to ring in their intentions before 7.30am. However, should weather conditions improve sufficiently before 12 o’clock staff will be expected to come in to work.

Unless the weather deteriorates during the day staff will be expected to work their normal hours.

If a parent has been able to bring his/her child in to school he/she should be able to expect his/her child to remain in school until the normal finishing time (unless the school has announced that it will be closed or unless the weather begins to deteriorate sufficiently to warrant that it would be advisable to get the children home as soon as possible.

**Annual General Meeting**

Windmill Integrated Primary School will hold its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 27th November at 7.30pm.

**Trips**

Swimming lessons for Primary 5EV and Primary 6 commenced on Thursday 8th November for 6 weeks.

**Dates for your diary**

5th December 2018- Christmas Extravaganza at The Integrated College Dungannon at 7pm. Windmill’s choir will be singing at the event. Windmill will also have a stall at the event selling Christmas decorations made by pupils from Nursery to Primary 7 under the direction and guidance of Mrs Stephanie Hazelton.

6th December 2018- Primary 2-Primary 4 Christmas Play entitled the Inn-spectors. There will be 2 shows; one in the morning at 10.00am and the second show will take place at 7pm that evening. **All children have an important part to play in the Christmas performance and therefore all P2, P3 and P4 children must attend on the night.**

6th December 2018- Alex and Connie Puppet Show in the Nursery – 9.15am-10.15am.

School Christmas Dinner- Friday 7th December 2018. School closes at 1.30pm for Primary 1-Primary 4 children and older siblings; 1.45pm for Primary 5-Primary 7 children.

13th December 2018- Primary 1 Christmas Assembly at 9.30am

13th December 2018- Windmill’s School choir will be entertaining ‘Over 65’s’ at The Junction, Dungannon at 1.30pm.

14th December 2018- Ulster Hockey Tournament for boys and girls will be held at the Meadowbank Sports Centre, Magherafelt from 10-12 noon.

17th December 2018 from 2.15-4.15pm- Open Afternoon for prospective Nursery and Primary 1 parents and pupils.

20th December 2018- Parents Council will be holding the Annual Christmas Parties- Nursery children in the morning from 9.00am -10.00am, P1& P2- 10.15am-11.30am, P3&P4 children -1.30pm-2.45pm.

20th December 2018- Parents Council will be holding a Christmas Disco for P5-P7 children from 7.00pm- 8.30pm. raffle will take place on the night.