



# Dromara Primary School



16<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Christmas Jumper/Accessories can be worn on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> & Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December. (please bring £1 by tomorrow, Thursday)



Term ends: **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

Children in Years 1-3 and siblings will leave school at 12.15 pm.

The remaining children in Years 4 - 7 will leave at 12.25 pm.

This is to ease congestion.

**\*PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON YELLOW LINES OR OVER DRIVEWAYS\***

Although we were unable to hold our Christmas Fair this year, the children have enjoyed our 'Festive Fridays', making Christmas decorations and taking part in activities. Thank you to everyone involved and especially to those who also sent donations for the School Fund. So far, a total of £1634.20 has been raised - thank you again for your support. The winner of our Fireside Quiz was Amy and Aoife guessed the bear's name - "Grizzly". Congratulations!



School Stationery - Dear Santa, please deliver some stationery (pens, pencils, rubbers, Pritt, colouring pencils, felt tips, etc) which the children can bring into school on 6<sup>th</sup> January to replenish their school boxes.



Bookings and cash for school meals on 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> January should be sent in on 6<sup>th</sup> January. Further bookings and payment should continue to be made on **Mondays**.



Applications for September 2021 Year 1 are made via the Education Authority website, [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk). Parents will also need to upload a copy of their child's birth certificate. Further details are available on our website/app. And check out our 'virtual school tour' - the children are the stars!

We have been informed by EA that applications for Post-Primary Admissions will also be made via the Education Authority website. Further details to follow.

Clubs - Due to the information released by the Public Health Agency, it is unlikely that Clubs will be able to start in January as hoped. Please be assured that we will continue to monitor the situation.

We would encourage all parents, if you have not already done so, to download our app. This allows parents to receive important notifications instantly and gives you easy access to school information, including newsletters. This is especially important at this uncertain time and when information from the Department of Education can change at short notice. It is also useful if we have to close suddenly due to snow, etc.



We are also investigating the possibility of setting up a facility which will enable us to contact parents by email. If you have not given us an email address or changed your email address recently, please email us with information. A test email will be sent before 1 pm on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. If you do not receive it, please email school to let us



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know ([info@dromaraps.org](mailto:info@dromaraps.org)). As our email is filtered by the C2K education system, there may be restrictions and this test will allow us to check if it is possible to send emails to all account types.



We would like to say a huge thank you to Dromara Village Association for organising a tin of sweets for each family. These have been sent home today. (If your child is not in school, they will be held until their return).

## Health update

Again, a huge thank you to parents for communicating effectively with the school with regard to children's health and in particular with COVID. In the New Year I would ask that you continue to err on the side of caution when children have any sort of illness, perhaps giving them a day or two off to ensure that they are fit and well enough before returning to school and keeping us informed.

Regarding attendance, children should always be in school as much as possible. However, in the current climate, we would prefer that children are kept off if they show any symptoms of COVID or have any sort of stomach upset. To dispel any myths, children will, as normal, be marked down as absent if they are not attending school for any reason. A special COVID absence code is *only* applied to children who have been told to self-isolate through track and trace or directly by the PHA. The Department of Education has stated that children who have been or will be kept off school for 'fear of COVID' will be given an unauthorized absence mark.

**School reopens: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**please note change of date**

**please keep an eye on the website in case of further updates/changes**

The School Development Day due to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> January has been moved to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February to help facilitate parental interviews. Further details to follow. School will therefore be closed to pupils on 12<sup>th</sup> February.



**Wishing everyone a very happy and safe Christmas and a peaceful New Year.**

