 St Patrick’s P.S.

 and Nursery

 Castlederg



**73 Castlefin Rd**

**Castlederg**

**Co Tyrone BT81 7EE**

**Tel 028816 71458 Fax 028816 79821 email:info@stpatricks.castlederg.ni.sch.uk**

**Website –** [www.stpatrickspscastlederg.co.uk](http://www.stpatrickspscastlederg.co.uk)

**Christmas Letter - December 2019**

**Dear Parent/s**

Many thanks to all the parent/s and families who attended last week’s Mass for families of children receiving Sacraments.

**Open Invite - Applications for P1 and Nursery**

The application website/portal for P1 and for both nursery classes at St Patrick’s PS and Nursery Unit for the next academic year will be available online from the 2nd January 2020 at [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk).

I have added a parent’s page on our website which explains the process on our website. This has a video for parents and links to the EA website.

We expect to be oversubscribed for both Nursery and P1 so please return completed applications as soon as possible. Please note that applications and documents for P1 and nursery must be completed online by the 30th January 2020.

Late applications cannot be considered until all other children are placed. Make sure all family members are informed.

If you need help with the process, or advice on completing forms, please speak with myself or Deirdre Traynor in the school office or Mrs. Shelley Nursery teacher.

Prospective parents new to the nursery or primary school are welcome to arrange a visit and tour of the school and to meet some of our staff with the Principal. Contact the school office to arrange a visit. Our updated prospectus for nursery and our primary are now available on our website.

**After schools club**

Afterschool club will finish on Thursday 12th December 2019 and recommence on Tuesday 7th January 2020 with homework club.

Breakfast club continues as normal.

**St Vincent de Paul** **/Children in Crossfire**

Thank you to all families who have donated to the St. Vincent de Paul collection to date. We have collected a good amount of food to date and your support is greatly appreciated. We have extended the closing date for donations to Friday 13th December 2019. The P7 pupils will help organise these hampers and all donations can be left in the P7 classrooms.

This Advent the children can make a small donation for the **Children in Crossfire Appeal** by wearing their Christmas Jumper/outfit on Wednesday 18th December 2019 - Parents can make a donation to any of these charities in lieu of gifts for staff.

**CHRISTMAS MASS, NATIVITY SHOWS AND EVENTS**

* Friday 13th December 2019 – Christmas/Advent Mass P1 – P7 10am St Patrick’s Church.
* Monday 16th December 2019 – Nursery Christmas Capers – Sure Start
* Monday 16th December 2019 – Cinema Trip to Lifford P3 to P7.
* Monday 16th December 2019 P1 Nativity 10am.
* Tuesday 17th December 2019 Nursery Christmas Show 10am.
* Wednesday 18th December 2019 – School Christmas Dinner (Christmas Dress Up Day)
* Wednesday 18th December 2019 – Mrs. Mc Crory Music Club and Choir Christmas Show 4pm

Remember to continue to be sensible when using smart phones and cameras at these events and please don’t share videos on social media unless you have the permission of the parents of pupils photographed. There is a link to a good article on **Sharenting** on our website in December’s Online Safety Newsletter.

Tickets for our Christmas raffle will be available to buy at the shows.

**Holidays**

The primary school closes for the Christmas holidays on Friday 20th December 2019 at 12.00pm. Dinner may be ordered on the morning on this day for any child in receipt of free school meals or pupils who are moving on to crèche etc.

The school will re-open for the Spring term on Tuesday 7th January 2020 as normal.

The Nursery Pupils finish on Wednesday 18th December 2019 as normal and return to school on Tuesday 7th January 2020.



Wishing you a safe and peaceful holiday and thanks for your continued support.

Brian Mc Gurk

Principal