

St Clare's Abbey Primary School  
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 Principal: Mrs M. Monaghan M.Ed (Educational Management)PQHNI

26/11/14

Dear Parents,

I write this letter for four reasons:

**First:** I wish to inform you that pupils will have a half day **on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014, 12pm finish**. This is to facilitate staff training related to our new school. Should this pose a difficulty for any child who is entitled to a free school meal please contact me or Mr Sweeney.

**Second:** I wish to give you dates for the Christmas festivities on each site.

Abbey Site-Boys	Class	Date & Time		St Clare's Site-Girls	Class	Date & Time
<b>Venue:</b>						
Nursery	Nursery AM class	17/12/14- Wed @ 10AM		Miss Mc Shane's Classroom	Miss Mc Shane & Mrs Trotter	18/12/14 – Thurs @1.30pm
Nursery	Nursery PM class	17/12/14- Wed @ 1pm		Miss Mc Shane's classroom	Miss Mc Shane & Mrs Trotter	19/12/14 – Fri @1.30pm
Classroom	Mrs Cribbin.	18/12/14 – Thurs @1.30pm		Assembly Hall	Miss Mallon & Mrs Mc Goldrick	17/12/14- Wed @ 1.45pm
Classroom	Mrs Crozier & Miss Mc Nally.	17/12/14 –Wed @11.30		Assembly Hall	Miss O Hanlon & Miss Griffin	12/12/14- Fri @1.30 1.45pm
Classroom	Miss Rocks.	15/12/14- Mon @ 1.30pm		Assembly Hall	Miss Duffy	15/12/14- Mon @1.45pm
Classroom	Mrs Tierney.	16/12/14- Tues @ 11.00		Assembly Hall	Mrs Mc Parland & Mrs Donnelly	18/12/14- Thurs @ 1.45
ECPD unit	Mr Henry & Miss O Shea.	18/12/14- Thurs @ 11.30				
At school entrance daily.	Mr Digney	P5 Charity Fundraiser-products/tickets will be sold each morning this week.				
Assembly Hall	Mass for all boys –P4 – P7 boys and their parents led by Ms Crawley's P6 class.	18/12/14-Thurs @ 9.30 AM				
Assembly Hall	Miss Mc Coy	17/12/14 –Wed @1.30pm				

**Third:** The school council has been appointed and are sending out a letter explaining the focus of all fundraising for this school year. They have a 'Christmas Jumper or Christmas 'head gear'' day planned for Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December . They are asking for a contribution of £1 per child as payment for this fun day. They have also decided that they will have a collection at each play/sing-a-long to boost their fundraising effort. They would greatly appreciate any contributions made by parents at each of these events and are very hopeful that 'The Christmas bucket collection' as they call it, will really give their fundraising effort a good boost.

**Fourth:** One very exciting piece of information that I wish to share with you is that the official 'sod cutting' ceremony led by the Minister of Education, John O Dowd, will take place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Weather permitting, the plan is to have all pupils up on site to see the events. Therefore I urge you to ensure that your child has a warm coat, scarf, gloves and hat for that day. This will be a truly wonderful occasion after an incredibly long wait. Given all the 'Education Cuts' we are so fortunate that our build has started as there are many disappointed schools throughout the country at this time. Thankfully we are not and we will start the new year excited that December 2015 will mark the opening of our fabulous, state of the art, new school building.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and familiarise yourself with all that is happening in school. To conclude, our dedicated staff are working so hard to ensure that each child grows in his/ her understanding of the true meaning of Christmas. I thank them for their efforts and look forward to seeing you at our celebrations. In the midst of the hustle and bustle of all the practical Christmas preparations it is wonderful to be able to take a short 'time out' to reflect on the birth of Our Lord as portrayed so beautifully by our precious boys and girls.

**Holiday reminders:**

***Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December- No School :Holy day***

***Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December- Half day for pupils, 12pm finish.***

***Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December- Christmas holidays begin @ 12pm***

Looking forward to seeing you in the days ahead,

Yours in partnership,

Mrs M Monaghan

Principal.