

12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA

Phone: (028) 3026 2175

Dear Parents,

As we prepare for the final week in school I appreciate that several parents have decided not to have their children attend. I fully understand the reasons given to me for those decisions and if anyone needs to take similar action, please email me to [mmonaghan771@c2kni.net](mailto:mmonaghan771@c2kni.net)

I do need to point out however that staff will not be able to offer online learning for this period. The organisation and implementation of online learning is a big workload for our teachers and one that they could not do in addition to teaching their class in school. That being said, the children have worked really hard this term and the teachers have posted excellent work on Seesaw, there will be an abundance of work for you to revisit for revision purposes- so please do not worry!

### **VERY IMPORTANT BREAKING NEWS:**

We have had a few sightings of elves in the school in recent days. They were picked up on our cameras, (I'm sure that you often hear the children referencing our school cameras and how they pick up EVERYTHING!) I have set the system up to release the recordings to your Private Seesaw inbox- a new release each day between now and next Friday. Please show them to your children.

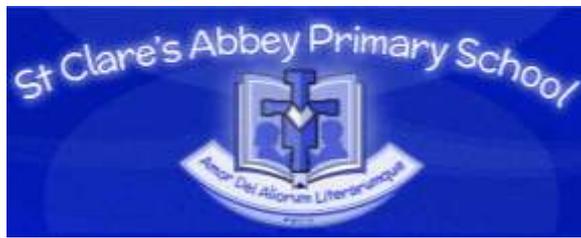
It is all very exciting!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

### **Key dates**

**Next Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>** Will be Christmas fun day for Nursery pupils. Santa will visit and they can wear Christmas clothes.

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>** Will be Christmas fun day for P1-P7 pupils. Santa will visit and they can wear Christmas/ Non Uniform clothes.

**Fri 18<sup>th</sup>** School will close at 12PM



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Other information:

I wish to thank you for your generous contribution of £880 to the Christmas Charity Donation in lieu of gifts to staff. I am so appreciative and wish you to know that this will be split between Newry Hospice and St Vincent De Paul. I will keep the payment option open until next Thursday and will send the cheques at the end of that day. Sincere thanks.

We have had a new school chaplain appointed- Fr Alphonsos, the newest addition to Newry parish. We look forward to welcoming him to St Clare's Abbey.

**To conclude:**

We have been praying each day during Advent and the message that we have been reiterating is the need to be kind to each other, especially during these last few weeks before Christmas. We have reached the conclusion that we all have our own part to play in making St Clare's Abbey a kind school. The children understand that if each works on making him/herself as kind as he/she can be, then we will get there. This is a very difficult message to portray as our children can be *insensitive to the hurt that they cause, whilst being keenly aware of the hurt that they receive.* We work very hard to try to teach empathy and ask you to have similar conversations at home.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours in partnership,

Mrs Monaghan