



Weekly Parent Newsletter: 13

Week ending 30 November 2018

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REMINDERS

- ✓ **Tuesday 11, Wednesday 12 & Thursday 13 December** - **P1-4 Christmas Nativity 10am-11am**. This is being held in the Senior School's Drama Theatre and will be a ticket only entry due to limited seating. Please ensure your ticket requests are returned to school by Monday 3 December. Tickets will be sent home on Tuesday 4 December.
- ✓ **Thursday 13 December P5-7 Carol Service** @ 7pm in First Holywood Presbyterian Church. Everyone welcome!
- ✓ **Wednesday 19 December** - SUPPA Xmas Party: P1 -P4 starts 6pm pick-up 7pm
P5 - P7 starts 6.45pm pick-up 8pm
Pick-ups are from the Silver Robin cafeteria located near the swimming pool. Adults must pick up children. Further details to follow
- ✓ **Friday 21 December** - school finishes at 12 noon no lunch. After School Club finishes earlier than normal at the time of **4.30pm** for end of term lock up procedures.
- ✓ **Monday 7 January** - school resumes at 8.50am.
ALL Children require a **packed lunch** as the Silver Robin is closed due to the Senior School having an additional Exceptional Closure day.

Animal Allsorts came to visit **Prep 6** this week. Catherine a zoologist, brought her reptiles to our classroom so that we could get up close and handle some unusual wild creatures.

First out was Timmy the tortoise; he was very relaxed and enjoyed having his tummy tickled. He was a fascinating colour. Then we met Wilbur the lizard. He was big and very active! His skin was very scaly and he moved very quickly! Rio the python, was up next and he was enormous! Many of us had never held a snake before today and we were surprised that his skin was not slimy! His colouring and the way he moved was totally mesmerising. Everyone was very disappointed when he had to go!



After the excitement of the snake came Jellybean the gecko. He was lovely and had a velvety tail and his feet were the exact shape of our hands. He was a speedy runner too! Marcel the tree frog came next and because our hands were nice and cool, he felt quite at home in our palms. He must have been sleepy because he didn't take one single leap! We finished with a chameleon and a scorpion, which both enjoyed scurrying around. Then Catherine had one surprise left - a Chilean tarantula! We couldn't believe that he was allowed out of his box! We were reassured that he was particularly laid back and was not a poisonous spider. We all got to stroke him and were very interested in his furry coat! We had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and some people even managed to conquer their fears! If you see a member of Prep 6, please ask them which animal was their favourite.

PE REMINDERS

Monday 3 December -

Swimming resumes for P5, P6 & P7 today.
P4 swimming will resume after Christmas.
Netball Club will be on (weather permitting).

Tuesday 4 December - our Cross Country team will travel to Newcastle for the second round of the Athletics NI series. All runners should come to school in correct kit as stated on the permission slip. As they will be away over lunch time, pupils will need a packed lunch. If your child normally has school dinners, a packed lunch has been ordered for them. Mr Allen will travel with the bus leaving at 9.30am and returning around 1.15pm. If your child normally has music lessons during this time, please contact your child's music teacher to reschedule. Please also ensure that your child is well wrapped up as this is always a cold morning out!

Wednesday 5 December - Cross Country club will be on (weather permitting). If the weather is poor, we will have some classroom-based fun fitness so all runners should be collected at the normal 4pm time regardless of weather.

Thursday 6 December - our Football Team will leave on Thursday at 1.45pm to travel to Londonderry Park. We have three matches, starting at 2.30pm and finishing at 4pm. Players will return to Loughhead House for pick up at 4.20pm. All players should bring correct PE kit to school as well as shin guards.

PE Kit - please encourage P5-7 children to check that they have the correct kit for PE/Games/Swimming/Clubs the night before as we have had lots of forgotten items of kit in the past few weeks.

It is unfair to expect you as parents to bring forgotten kit in after the start of the school day, although we will endeavour to give you that choice for P4-6 where possible.

In order to help prepare pupils for moving on to Year 8, phone calls regarding kit will not be made for P7 unless in exceptional circumstance. We thank you for your support in this matter.

We had a brilliant day of Netball yesterday. Six other primary schools attended and we had two teams. Well done to all!

Carlos, one of our local fire fighters, came to visit **Prep 5**. He talked to us about the causes of fire, bedtime routines, the importance of smoke alarms (and testing them) and escape plans. The class listened attentively and learnt much from his visit. Isabella wrote: The fireman was very helpful and we learned a lot about fires and what to do if there is a fire outside your bedroom. You need to use pillows and shout Fire! It takes 30 minutes for a fire to spread. Someone should call 999 and the Fire Brigade will be there in 5 minutes.



It was Prep 6's turn to take Assembly and our theme was "Perseverance", which was quite apt for this time of year. We have been studying animals in Science so we were able to retell the story of the Hare & the Tortoise, followed by an animated short film about Pip the guide dog. Prep 6 wanted everyone to remember that we can sometimes feel overwhelmed by new things, or make mistakes, but that's how we learn. What's important is that we persevere, try a little harder and not give up. We shared a couple of quotations from famous people - Nelson Mandela "it always seems impossible until it's done". Winston Churchill, "Never, never, never give in". To round it off, Prep 6 shared some of their animal knowledge and delivered some interesting facts about some of the most powerful and determined animals in the world.

