



# St. Teresa's Primary School

"Doing ordinary things extraordinarily well"



## Winter Newsline 2021

Parents / Guardians,

I hope this Newsline finds you and your family well. During this Holy season of Advent in the lead up to Christmas, we hope all our school community are keeping well and families enjoy the build up to December 25<sup>th</sup>.

### COVID-19 Regulations

We are still currently maintaining guidelines from the Dept. of Education, PHA and the Government regarding our school, but can I reiterate, **if your child is displaying symptoms of coronavirus, please notify the school and take the necessary precautions.** Up to date information is on the school app to ensure the safety of your children in the school setting – please make sure your contact details are up to date in the school office at all times. Please refer to letter (on school app) on 11/11/2021 that outlines the school position, if there is not enough staff in school.

### Food Allergies / Healthy Break

**Can I ask you to adhere to precautions we have in school for children with severe allergies? To date we have 4 children (who require epipens) and can I ask that NO nuts or fish are brought into school at ANYTIME. Thank you for helping us with 'Healthy Breaks' this year as we require our children to bring in water, fruit or vegetables to eat / drink at breaktime. We all can see a remarkable effort made by you recently and the benefits are already showing with our children too!**

### Homework

All our children have commenced homeworks again and it is vital that you sign their reading log/records each night and look over their tasks in literacy/numeracy or eLearning nights.

### 60<sup>th</sup> Celebration Week

Thank you to all our children, staff and Friends of St Teresa's who made our 60<sup>th</sup> Celebration week (Mon 18<sup>th</sup> – Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> October) a success. We hope to mark the occasion with a few other activities throughout the year, so watch this space!



### Afterschools

Our afterschool activities are continuing for Term 1. Please keep a check on the School App for full list of activities from 2-3pm and 3-4pm Monday – Friday. When the next set of afterschool activity bookings open, you will be notified by the School App, please ensure you have the notifications switched on for the App.

### Music Service

The EA Music Tutors have commenced lessons again in school. This year they are teaching individual children in violin, saxophone and piano. We have been able to avail of whole class tuition for P4 (Violins), P5 (Clarinets) and P6 (Recorders) this term, for the first time. Thank you for the fees (that were sent out on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021) that have been paid. Reminders for remaining balances will be sent in due course.

### Barnardos

We are sad to lose Mrs Lori Evans (our Barnardo's counsellor) who left us in November. We are awaiting a new counsellor starting with us again next week. If you think your child would benefit from our new counsellor, please contact your child's teacher to make a referral.

### Drama Teacher

Congratulations to all our P4-P7 children who took part, and to those who were successful, at the Banbridge Festival last week.

Thank you to Parents/Guardians who helped with transport to Banbridge. We are the FIRST SCHOOL in the ABC Area to promote children's self-confidence and self-esteem by allowing children to develop their oral literacy and performance techniques in the Ulster Speech and Drama Exams. All our children from P4-P7 were successful in their exams which took place in school on 30/11/2021. Thank you to the Teachers / Classroom Assistants and Mrs Garvey – Well done!



### Sacraments

**P4 – First Holy Communion – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 1pm in St Peter's Church, Lurgan. (Please Note, change of date/time)**

**P7 – Confirmation – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 4pm in St Peter's Church, Lurgan.**

### Primary 5 Teacher

Mr. Stubberfield has taken over from Mrs. Rafferty within the Primary 5 class. We wish him all the best in St Teresa's Primary School.

### Christmas Raffle

Tickets (1 book per family) will go on sale soon for our Christmas Raffle which will take place on 20/12/2021. Proceeds will go to support the St Vincent De Paul within St. Peter's Parish, Lurgan.

### Parent Teacher meetings

Thank you for taking the time to consult with all the teachers during the recent Parent Teacher Meetings in November. I hope they were beneficial for you and you were able to discuss progress / targets and any other concerns or worries that you may have for your child.

### Admissions for September 2022

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December we will have Open Afternoons for the new P1 children hoping to come to St Teresa's Primary School, Lurgan in September 2022. **Please spread the word to book an appointment!** - The EA admission portal opens on 10/1/2022 and closes on 28/1/2022.

### Important Upcoming Dates

- 2/12/2021** - School Nurse – Flu Vaccinations
- 6/12/2021** - Primary 7 visit to Lismore School
- 7/12/2021** - Open Afternoon 2-4pm (Appt only)
- 8/12/2021** - Open Afternoon 2-4pm (Appt only)
- 9/12/2021** - Christmas Dinner (Children in school)
- 10/12/2021** - Christmas Jumper Day and Light Up Day for Tree, all children to finish at 1.30pm (Buses available at 1.30pm)

**20/12/2021** - 'Special Guest' in school for children with a small gift too!

P3 – P7 **Outdoor Carol Service** in school amphitheatre 1:20-2pm (weather permitting with refreshments afterwards)  
Parents/Guardians welcome – bring a coat and a hat!

**21/12/2021** - P1 & P2 Nativity performance 'A Wiggly Nativity' will be recorded and shared with parents/guardians.

**23/12/2021** - School finishes 11:30am for all children (Buses available at 11.30am)

**5/01/2022** - School Term 2 starts for all children

From all the children, staff, Principal & Board of Governors in St Teresa's Primary School, we would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.



All newlines and dinner menus are available on the school website [www.stteresaslurgan.com](http://www.stteresaslurgan.com) and School App