

# St. Catherine's Nursery School

Principal: Mrs. Bridget Wilders B.Ed. P.G. Dip.Ed. P.Q.H.

Email: bwilders592@c2kni.net



## JUNIOR SITE

Phone: (028) 7138 2272

Fax: (028) 7138 2139

Strabane  
Co. Tyrone  
BT82 8HT

## SENIOR SITE

Phone: (028) 7138 2614

Fax: (028) 7138 2482

Download Our **FREE** School App

St Catherines PS, Strabane



Facebook : StCatherines PrimarySchool



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Follow us on Instagram : St Catherine's Primary School

**Monthly Note: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

**Check us out on our website: [www.stcatherinesps.co.uk](http://www.stcatherinesps.co.uk)**

## BREAKING NEWS

Christmas Dinner Day (Christmas Jumper and Casual Clothes Day): Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>  
December 2020

Christmas Jumper Day (Christmas Jumper and Casual Clothes Day in aid of charity) :  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

This year Christmas Dinner will be served to each classroom bubble on THURSDAY 10<sup>th</sup> December at the usual price of £2.60. Our little children may wear their Christmas Jumper and casual clothes on this day to get into the Christmas Spirit!

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December we are also asking our children to wear their Christmas Jumper and Casual Clothes to school and have a little Christmas MOVIE in their classroom! We are asking our little pupils to make a voluntary contribution of £1 on this day which we will donate to charity...the St. Vincent de Paul Society to help others in need.



## Attention Year 7 Parents:

### Year 7 Post Primary Applications

If you are the parent of a pupil in Year 7, you will be required to make an application for their new Post Primary School using an ONLINE system this year (just like the one that the parents of Nursery and Year 1 Pupils use). The Online Portal will open for applications on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 until 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Further information on the process will be available from the EA Website from 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

As we get more information in school we will share this with you.

If your child has a statement of Special Educational Needs you will go to school in the usual way to complete a Transfer Review.



Post Primary Admissions  
will take place online this year  
The Online Portal will open on  
1 March 2021 until 16 March  
Regularly updated information and guidance  
will be provided to parents by the EA and  
schools over the coming months

For help and advice, parents/ guardians can contact our Admissions Helpdesk via  
email: [postprimaryadmissions@eani.org.uk](mailto:postprimaryadmissions@eani.org.uk)

## Parent Teacher Meetings

Due to the present restrictions we will not be able to host Parent / Teacher Meetings for the whole school in November ( as we usually do). We will however review this and make arrangements in Term 2. We will be carrying out valuable baseline assessments now in Term 1 (Years 2-7) before Christmas to baseline our children's attainment post lockdown. We will keep in touch with you about the outcomes of these assessments in due course. It is to be noted that parents may email staff at any time to find out about the progress that your child is making at school and to ask any questions or raise any concerns that you might have. Many thanks in anticipation of your understanding in this matter.



## School Photographer

The School Photographer will be back to visit the JUNIOR SCHOOL again to complete any photos of pupils who did not get them taken already in particular YEAR 1A. If there are any other pupils in any other classes in the JUNIOR SCHOOL who wish to have a photo taken; just email your child's teacher or ring the school to arrange this.

The photographer has arranged to come to the JUNIOR SCHOOL on WEDNESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER.

Please ensure that your child is wearing their FULL WINTER UNIFORM on this day.



## Prayer of the Month December

### Prayer for Advent

Jesus, we are waiting with joyful hearts  
to remember and celebrate the wonder of  
your birth.

You came into the world as a helpless  
baby,

but already you were holding within  
your tiny, beating heart

a beautiful hope for mankind: a sacred  
dream

in which we live together in peace, love,  
and truth.

Throughout this time of waiting, may  
we do our very best

to turn your sacred dream for us into  
reality, so that at Christmas,

we can offer you a present for your  
birthday,

fashioned out of peace and perfect love.



PATHS Programme in St. Catherine's  
(Promoting Alternative Thinking  
Strategies)

PATHS Quote of the Month December

There is so much you can learn  
when you listen. You can be a  
good friend by listening.

Listening is often the only  
thing needed to help someone.

Be a good listener today to  
learn new things and to be a  
good friend.



**PATHS™**  
The PATHS™ Programme for Schools (UK Version)  
Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies

Believe in  
children  
**Barnardo's**

**PATHS**  
EDUCATION WORLDWIDE



## Free School Meals Applications

If your child is not in receipt of Free School Meals and you are eligible to apply; it's not too late. Just apply online to the Education Authority [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk) and make your application or alternatively you can ring 028 82 411411 for more information.

**Don't miss out!**



## Complaints Policy and Procedures

Our school seeks to be a '**listening school**' and will do its best to enable parents/guardians to feel confident to raise issues and concerns with appropriate staff in a timely/appropriate manner.

Comments/Complaints will be considered following a clear set of procedures based on Education Authority / CCMS guidance. These procedures will be made clear to any parent/guardian or member of the public making a complaint. Complaints can be shared either verbally or in writing.

Our school will try to resolve a parent/guardian's concern as informally and quickly as possible and always make clear what action is being taken. It is to be noted that the correct procedure for making complaints is outlined in our **Complaints Policy and Procedure** which is available upon request from either School Office. If you have any further queries / concerns about this procedure, please do not hesitate to contact the Principal.

**We respectfully request that you address all concerns with the school in the first instance so that your concerns can be addressed as soon as possible and as effectively as possible.**

Thank you!



# StopCOVID NI

DOWNLOAD THE APP NOW



Learn more at  
[nidirect.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://nidirect.gov.uk/coronavirus)



The COVID-19  
contact tracing app  
for Northern Ireland



## Welcome Advent!

### Sundays of Advent:

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: 29<sup>th</sup> November

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: 6<sup>th</sup> December

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: 13<sup>th</sup> December

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: 20<sup>th</sup> December



# Advent Wreath

**1st CANDLE** – (purple) **THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE** – We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

**2nd CANDLE** – (purple) **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to “get ready”. Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

**3rd CANDLE** – (pink) **THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY** – The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

**4th CANDLE** – (purple) **THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE** – The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

**5th CANDLE** – (white) **“CHRIST CANDLE”** – The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29)

## ADVICE TO PARENTS: 5 top tips for a healthy balance with gaming

- ❗ **Set boundaries.** Ensure they complete their school work and any chores before they play, keeping to a 'school' schedule.
- ❗ **Break up the amount of screen time** by getting them to play outside, do some exercise or participate in activities. Most young people are being set work via apps during lockdown which creates more time looking at screens.
- ❗ **Make the most of technology.** If they are wanting to game for the social interaction, why not use an app to create a virtual play date and play other styles of games.
- ❗ **Help your child to control their emotions.** Some children will be struggling with the lack social interaction and not seeing their friends. Help them to find activities they can do to fulfil this need such as board games with the family.
- ❗ **Allow a wind down time before sleep.** The blue light from the screen can interfere with sleep so set a no screen zone time at least 30 minutes before bed to help them get a relaxing and beneficial night's sleep





## Christmas Celebrations (Nursery, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3)

All the children in our school are staff are of course thinking about and preparing for Christmas as we enter the season of Advent but our littlest children are also preparing a little Christmas showcase since they cannot perform their Christmas Nativity Play for you this year in St. Patrick's Hall.

**Nursery :** Our little Twinkling Stars in Nursery will sing a little selection of  
of Christmas Songs.

**Year 1 A:** The Christmas Nativity Story

**Year 1 B:** The Christmas Nativity Story

**Year 2 A:** The Christmas Nativity Story

**Year 2 B:** The Christmas Nativity Story

**Year 3 A:** Christmas Poetry

**Year 3 B:** Christmas Songs

The children and staff have worked so hard to adapt given the circumstances this year and are really excited to share their efforts. We will take photos of them performing in school ( and upload them to social media) and we will also attempt to film their performance for you. When we get each class recorded, we will upload them to our website and email the link out to you (before the Christmas Holidays so that you can get a wee chance to look at the efforts of the children in each class bubble and get into the feeling of Christmas through the eyes of our children! We hope that you enjoy this.



# **School Closure for the Christmas Holidays**

## **Gentle reminder:**

School will close ( Half day ) on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December . School will remain closed over the Christmas Break and will reopen again on MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY as usual.

Due to adherence to the DE/ PHA Guidance we have a plan of staggered collection times to avoid crowds gathering outside the school hence minimizing risk and the possible spread of infection. The staggered times list is on the next page.

In the meantime we can only wish our little pupils, you, your families and extended families a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed, Healthy, Happy New Year 2021.



<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Drop off / Collection Point</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>Finish Time (FRIDAYS ONLY)</b>
Nursery Room 1	Nursery Room 1 External Door	9am-9.30am	<b>11.30am</b>
Nursery Room 2	Nursery Room 2 External Door	9am-9.30am	<b>11.35am</b>
Year 1A (Mrs Doherty)	Front door nearest to Mrs Hamilton's classroom in Junior School Site	8.50am	<b>11.35am</b>
Year 1B (Miss Hutton)	Back Door nearest to Mrs Mc Glynn's classroom	8.55am	<b>11.40am</b>
Year 2 A (Mrs Mc Glynn)	Back Door nearest to Mrs Mc Glynn's classroom	9.05am	<b>11.40am</b>
Year 2 B (Mrs Hamilton)	Front door nearest to Mrs Hamilton's classroom in Junior School Site	9.10am	<b>11.55am</b>
Year 3 A (Ms Mc Gowan)	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	8.50am	<b>11.35am</b>
Year 3 B (Mrs Mc Brien)	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	8.55am	<b>11.40am</b>
Year 4 A (Mrs Kelly)	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	9am	<b>11.45am</b>
Year 4 B (Mrs Vaughan)	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	9.05am	<b>11.50am</b>
Year 5 A (Mrs Gormley)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	9.10am	<b>11.55am</b>
Year 5 B (Mrs Connolly)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	9.15am	<b>12 Noon</b>
Year 5 C (Mrs O'Kane)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	9.20am	<b>12.05pm</b>
Year 6 A (Mr Mc Guigan)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	9am	<b>11.45am</b>
Year 6 B (Mrs Daly)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	9.05am	<b>11.50am</b>



Year 7 A (Miss Mc Granaghan)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	8.50am	<b>11.35am</b>
Year 7 B (Mrs Deery)	Double Gate at front of Senior School site nearest to the Main Front Door	8.50am	<b>11.35am</b>
Year 7 C (Miss Keyes)	Double Gate at front of Senior School site nearest to the Main Front Door	8.50am	<b>11.35am</b>

# Toy Appeal from Melmount Community Forum



To whom it may concern,

When shopping for Christmas gifts this year, please keep Melmount Community Forum in mind. As we are all aware, 2020 has been a hectic year for everyone but the people of Strabane and its surrounding areas have shown great support to one another, especially in times of need.

For many children, Christmas will be extra special this year. Although Christmas may be strange and different to previous years, it will still be filled with the same feelings of joy and happiness.

However, we must consider that there are children in our society whose lives have been impacted greatly by the Covid-19 pandemic. The livelihoods of parents and guardians have suffered greatly, and jobs have been lost. As a result, some parents and carers are unable to give much to their children this Christmas.

Making a donation of a new or gently used toy to Melmount Community Forum is a great way to show support for people in need and it shows that they are being thought of in these confusing times. It sends a message that we are aware that there are people within our society who are much less fortunate than ourselves and how we wish we could give them the Christmas that they deserve. This is a truly thoughtful opportunity to spread a message of Christmas cheer and charitable giving during this Christmas season.

We ask that local businesses encourage their customers and local schools encourage parents to donate new or gently used toys to our forum. Toys can be left at our drop-off location in the Melmount Community Forum Offices above the Vivo store Ballycolman. Alternatively, donated toys can be collected at a suitable time. We are delighted with the number of toys that have been recently donated to the forum and would like to thank everyone who has made a donation.

Let's work together as a community to deliver a magical Christmas to all children.



Sheridan Moore

Melmount Community Youth Forum

02871880878

**Melmount Community Forum**

# **TOY Appeal**

**Accepting donations  
until December 15th**

**Drop-off or arrange  
collection**

**New or gently used  
toys**



**Forum Offices 339 Ballycolman Estate (Above Vivo  
Store)**

**Please consider children of all ages**

Made with PosterMyWall.com



# **REMINDER: SCHOOL COLLECTION TIMES ON FRIDAYS**

Dear Parent/ Carer/ Guardian,

As you are aware we reopened our school with FULL Teaching Days , five days per week at the start of this academic year. Although we had to implement staggered start times and collection times (as per Department of Education (DE) Guidance), the length of our child's day at school has not been altered in any way to date.

However, due to the rise in COVID 19 Infection Levels in the Strabane/ Lifford Locality areas, we are now experiencing greater increases in the number of children who are needing to self isolate as a result of a positive COVID 19 case among their close family contacts or pupils may have to self isolate if their class bubble has to shut down due to a positive case in the class. This self isolation requirement is in line with Public Health Agency (PHA) Guidance.

If/When this happens, work will be provided for any child who has to self isolate as per Public Health Agency (PHA) guidance. A considerable length of time is needed in order to prepare work for individual pupils who find themselves self isolating and indeed in the event of the whole class needing work prepared.

To this end, we will now be altering the collection time for our pupils EVERY FRIDAY only. (See Revised times attached to this letter)

Staff will remain in school during that time to prepare for Home Learning Requests.

We appreciate that this will cause an adjustment to Friday Collection Times. We apologise for any inconvenience caused but feel that this course of action is necessary for the foreseeable future to allow for five days per week face to face teaching and combining home learning activities as well. The new collection times will take effect on **FRIDAY 16<sup>th</sup> October and every FRIDAY thereafter.**

We will keep this arrangement under review.

We thank you for your continued support and patience as we seek to go forward together in these unprecedented, very challenging times.

Kind Regards

Mrs. B. Wilders  
Principal

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Drop off / Collection Point</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>Finish Time (Monday – Thursday)</b>	<b>Finish Time (FRIDAYS ONLY)</b>
Nursery Room 1	Nursery Room 1 External Door	9am-9.30am	1.30pm	<b>1pm</b>
Nursery Room 2	Nursery Room 2 External Door	9am-9.30am	1.35pm	<b>1.05pm</b>
Year 1A (Mrs Doherty)	Front door nearest to Mrs Hamilton's classroom in Junior School Site	8.50am	2pm	<b>1.35pm</b>
Year 1B (Miss Hutton)	Back Door nearest to Mrs Mc Glynn's classroom	8.55am	2.05pm	<b>1.40pm</b>
Year 2 A (Mrs Mc Glynn)	Back Door nearest to Mrs Mc Glynn's classroom	9.05am	2.10pm	<b>1.50pm</b>
Year 2 B (Mrs Hamilton)	Front door nearest to Mrs Hamilton's classroom in Junior School Site	9.10am	2.15pm	<b>1.55pm</b>
Year 3 A (Ms Mc Gowan)	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	8.50am	2.50pm	<b>1.35pm</b>
Year 3 B (Mrs Mc Brien)	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	8.55am	2.55pm	<b>1.40pm</b>
Year 4 A (Mrs Kelly)	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	9am	3pm	<b>1.45pm</b>
Year 4 B (Mrs Vaughan)	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	9.05am	3.05pm	<b>1.50pm</b>
Year 5 A (Mrs Gormley)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	9.10am	3.10pm	<b>1.55pm</b>
Year 5 B (Mrs Connolly)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	9.15am	3.15pm	<b>2pm</b>
Year 5 C (Mrs O'Kane)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	9.20am	3.20pm	<b>2.05pm</b>
Year 6 A (Mr Mc Guigan)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	9am	3pm	<b>1.45pm</b>
Year 6 B (Mrs Daly)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	9.05am	3.05pm	<b>1.50pm</b>
Year 7 A (Miss Mc Granaghan)	Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School	8.50am	2.50pm	<b>1.35pm</b>

Year 7 B (Mrs Deery)	Double Gate at front of Senior School site nearest to the Main Front Door	8.50am	2.50pm	<b>1.35pm</b>
Year 7 C (Miss Keyes)	Double Gate at front of Senior School site nearest to the Main Front Door	8.50am	2.50pm	<b>1.35pm</b>



# BLENDED LEARNING



# What happens if my child has to self isolate?

As you are aware, we are living in very strange times indeed in our community. COVID 19 infections have been on the rise in our locality and as a result we are being extra vigilant in adhering to all safety measures that we can.

Despite our best efforts, some children/ families may have to self isolate due to positive COVID test result in their families or as a school family, we may have to shut down a bubble class if we are made aware of a member of our school family testing positive for COVID.

To this end we understand, that some parents may need to keep their children home to self isolate as per PHA Guidance.

We have arranged for some school work to be made available for our children on line using a Microsoft Office APP called.....MICROSOFT TEAMS. This app is available to us all using our school computer system called C2K and therefore provides additional internet safety measures for our parents/ carers/ children going forward.

In the event that you or we have to self isolate our children we want you to be aware of this additional school work that will be made available to you.

We will email you the following to help you access this work for your children at home (if you choose to)

1. Isolation ...What it means for you...a flowchart to explain
2. How to Download the Microsoft Teams App
3. Microsoft Teams Downloading...A Help Video
4. How to use Microsoft Teams

If you follow this guidance carefully, you / your child will be able to access the relevant work that you can complete while in isolation. Please note that you will need your child's C2K Username and Password which will be emailed to you by the class teacher. It must be stressed again that if you have not supplied the school with your active email address, you and your child will miss out on this valuable home learning facility. If you wish to have your mail address placed on our system or have a new email address please send an email to Mrs Clare Kelly (Clerical Officer) [ckelly452@c2kni.net](mailto:ckelly452@c2kni.net) detailing your name, your child's name and class teacher.

It is important to note that this is being sent to you in order to help you prepare INCASE of needing to self isolate. "Forewarned is forearmed"!!

If you have any queries at all please do not hesitate to email your child's class teacher or Mrs. C. Deery (ICT Leader) [cdeery308@c2kni.net](mailto:cdeery308@c2kni.net)

Or Miss J. Doherty (Vice Principal/ Learning Support Leader) [jdoherty742@c2kni.net](mailto:jdoherty742@c2kni.net)

Or Mrs. B. Wilders (Principal) [bwilders592@c2kni.net](mailto:bwilders592@c2kni.net) .

We hope that we do not have to use this facility too much but we must ensure that if children have to self isolate as per PHA Guidance, that the school can provide BLENDED LEARNING, that is learning between classroom and home.



# Starting Nursery or Primary School in September 2021?

Do you have or do you know anyone who has a little child who is ready to start Nursery or Year 1 in September 2021 and would very much like to join our family here at St. Catherine's?

Normally we would have Open Afternoons in November/ December but due to the present COVID 19 Restrictions we have to make slight adjustments.

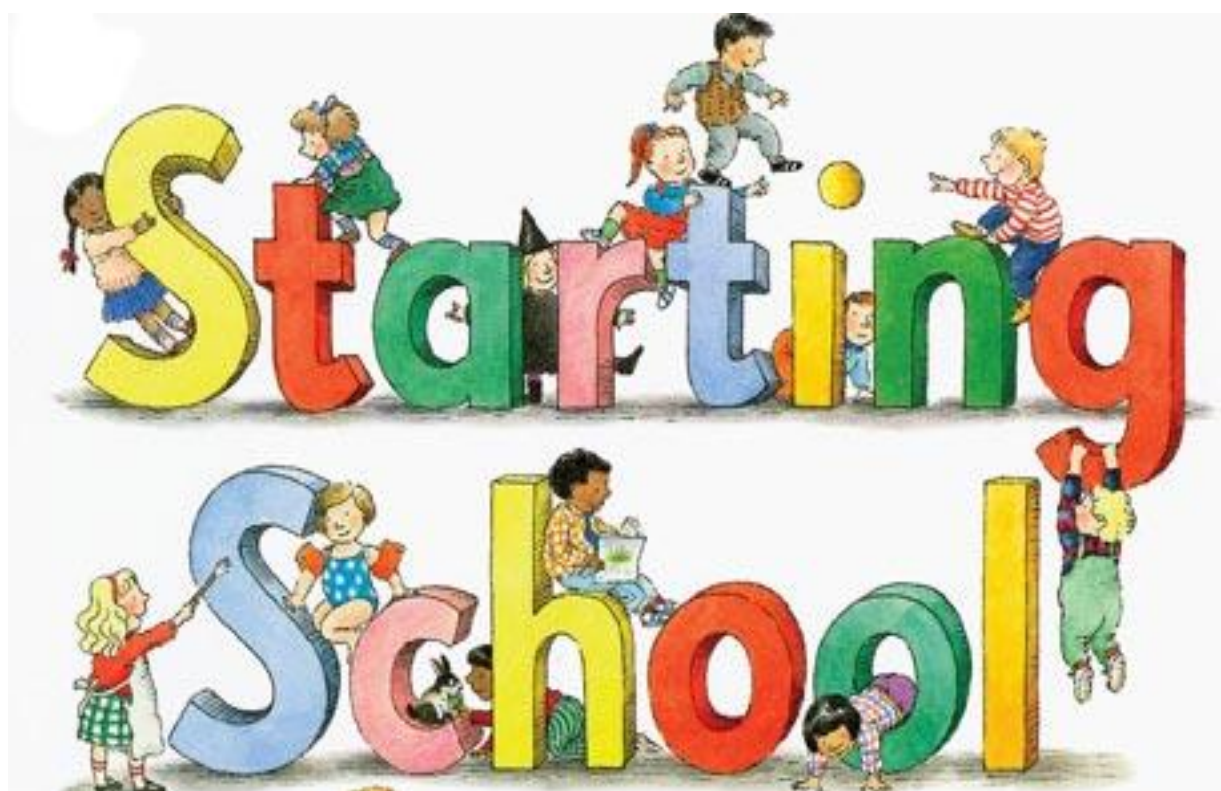
If anyone would like to have a tour of the school (either Nursery or Primary) and a talk with the Principal about the arrangements for starting school in September 2021, we will arrange a SOCIALLY DISTANCED APPOINTMENT and TOUR for you!! To arrange this you should just drop a little email to Mrs B. Wilders (Principal) at her email address [bwilders592@c2kni.net](mailto:bwilders592@c2kni.net) and this can be arranged asap. A School Prospectus will also be emailed to all parents of our school currently to let you know more about our little school (so spread the word!!) or alternatively can be posted upon request if you email the Principal at the email address above or ring the school office on 02871 382614.

We have a little Nursery Video and Year 1 Video which is on our website which you can watch to learn a little more about our Nursery and Primary School. See links below.

**Nursery:** <https://www.stcatherinesps.co.uk/welcome-new-pupils/nursery/>

**Primary One:** <https://www.stcatherinesps.co.uk/welcome-new-pupils/year-1/>

See our next page for Guidance on how to apply for a place in our little school.



## **ONLINE DIGITAL Admission Process**

Every year the application process for both NURSERY and YEAR ONE Places must be completed online by parents.

The ONLINE system will open at 12 NOON on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021 and will close at 12 Noon on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021.

The ONLINE link is below [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk) (Click on admissions)

We appreciate that this is new to some parents and some parents might find this process a little unnerving. Some parents may apply online with ease, however for any that would like a little extra support and guidance, we have arranged for little “Drop in Sessions” in school so that parents can come in and apply for a place for their child with staff there ready to help and guide in the process.

**The times that staff will be available to help are in the table below.**

Day /Date	Location	Morning Session	Afternoon Session	Evening Session (If applicable)
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Senior School (Barrack Street Site)	9am-10am	1pm-2pm	N/A
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Senior School (Barrack Street Site)	9am-10am	1pm-2pm	N/A
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Senior School (Barrack Street Site)	9am-10am	1pm-2pm	6.30pm-7.30pm
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Senior School (Barrack Street Site)	9am-10am	1pm-2pm	N/A
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Senior School (Barrack Street Site)	9am-10am	1pm-2pm	N/A
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	Senior School (Barrack Street Site)	9am-10am	1pm-2pm	N/A
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Senior School (Barrack Street Site)	9am-10am	1pm-2pm	N/A
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Senior School (Barrack Street Site)	9am-10am	1pm-2pm	6.30pm-7.30pm
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Senior School (Barrack Street Site)	9am-10am	1pm-2pm	N/A
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Senior School (Barrack Street Site)	9am-10am	1pm-2pm	N/A

It should be noted that even though Parents make their applications for places ONLINE, they must also bring a paper copy of their PROOF OF ADDRESS and their CHILD's BIRTH CERTIFICATE to their first preference school by 12 Noon on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY at the latest.



### What should I do now?

- ▶ Parents need to set up an email account if you do not already have one
- ▶ Check out the Education Authority (EA) website regarding Guidance on applications.....  
[www.eani.org.uk/digitaladmissions](http://www.eani.org.uk/digitaladmissions)
- ▶ Plan for how to complete the application ...perhaps plan to attend a drop in session in school. You can book today by emailing Mrs C Kelly (Admissions Officer on [ckelly452@c2kni.net](mailto:ckelly452@c2kni.net) or ring the school to get booked in on 02871 382614 and asking for Mrs Clare Kelly!)

It should be noted that even though Parents make their applications for places ONLINE, they must also bring

- ▶ 1. A paper copy of their PROOF OF ADDRESS,
- ▶ 2. CHILD's BIRTH CERTIFICATE
- ▶ 3. DSS (Confirmation of Income Support)

to their first preference school by 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 before 12 Noon at the latest.

## **COVID 19 Top Tip Reminders for Parents/ Carers:**

1. Every possible precaution will be taken to keep our little children and their staff safe in school.
2. Temperatures of children will be taken upon arrival to school and if a child's temperature is 38 degrees centigrade or above, parents will be called to take child home from school until they feel better. See Quick Guidance on COVID 19 Absences below.
3. Children will be encouraged to handwash/ sanitise regularly as per DE/ PHA Guidance. (If a child develops a skin irritation due to increased levels of handwashing/ sanitising, please talk to the class teacher so that an appropriate course of action can be taken). It is to be noted that all soaps and sanitisers are provided in school and have been procured through the Education Authority.
4. Children are organised in Class Bubble groups which will not mix with other Bubble Groups so as to control any spread of infection.
5. There are no gatherings of pupils/ staff for morning prayers, assemblies or canteen lunchtimes. Meals are delivered to the class rooms. There are currently no after school clubs/ breakfast club/ family clubs for the foreseeable future. We will let you know if this changes.
6. Children will have their own exercise books, text books and stationery packs in school and will not be required to share resources with each other. Parents should prepare stationery packs at home for their children with little exercise books so that if they need to self isolate they can continue work at home.
7. If children do have to isolate due to a positive case or if their class bubble has been shut down, school staff will be in contact with you in order to access Blended Learning Opportunities at home via MICROSOFT TEAMS. If you have any queries on this at all please contact the class teacher via email or Miss J. Doherty (Vice Principal) [jdoherty742@c2kni.net](mailto:jdoherty742@c2kni.net)
8. Children should have wipeable lunch boxes with NO CLOTH ideally. Children may bring a bottle of water to school and should take it home to be sterilised at the end of each day.
9. Parents are asked to regularly wash uniforms for their children to control the spread of infection.
10. Communication between home and school has never been more important than it is now. If your child is sick or has COVID 19 Symptoms or if someone in the family has symptoms or has tested positive....**PLEASE INFORM THE SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY** and keep your child at home for the correct isolation period as guided by Medical Staff. In order to control the spread of COVID 19 it is crucial that the school know what is happening.

11. Every effort is being made to ensure safety in school. Parents/ carers have a responsibility for their own safety outside of the school gates. We ask you to wear face coverings if you can and adhere to Social Distancing measures to protect yourselves and your children. For parents of Nursery, Year 1 and Year 2 Pupils who are ACTUALLY ACCESSING OUR SCHOOL GROUNDS to leave children to the designated school door, we respectfully request that you wear a face covering in the interests of the safety of all unless of course you are exempt.

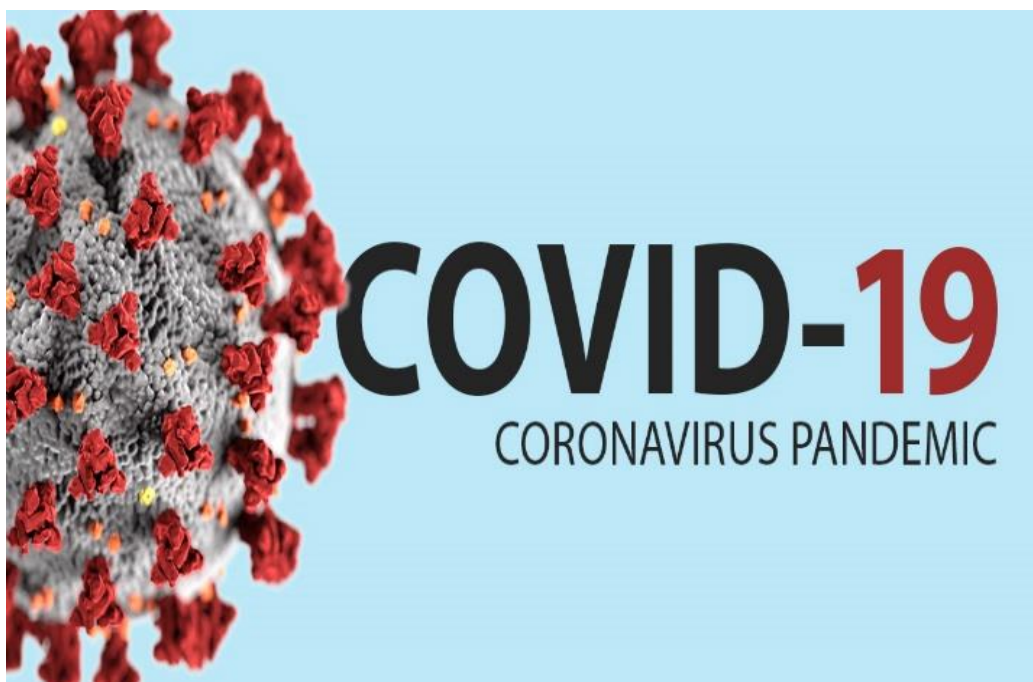
12. You can communicate with your child's teacher, Vice Principal or Principal by email and we will endeavor to respond to these within the working day. You can also ring the school and seek to make a socially distanced appointment. Unfortunately all parent meetings can no longer be handled by just "popping in" to school. All meetings must be by appointment only.

13. All visitors to school will have a temperature check upon arrival and will be asked to wear a face covering while in school adhering to PHA / DE Guidance.

14. Various update documents are emailed to every parent on a regular basis. Texts are also sent very regularly. Please ensure that you keep the school informed of your most up to date mobile number and email address. Clear guidance is included in these updates. Please read them carefully. Contact details for staff are also included in the Welcome pack that you received at the start of the year and in previous school letters to you.

15. It is to be noted that we are following at all times, guidance issued by the Department of Education (DE), Education Authority (EA) and Public Health Agency (PHA) as are all schools in NI.

16. This is a time of great change and adjustment for us all! We understand and appreciate this but if we work together and communicate regularly, we will get there! We need your support, patience and understanding. If you are unsure of something or have important questions to ask about the New Arrangements or any other queries, please approach us by phoning or email in order to gain clear answers. (Queries will also be addressed by **PRIVATE MESSAGE** to the School Facebook Page). We will respond to you and will be only too happy to clarify.





## A PARENTS QUICK GUIDE TO CORONAVIRUS RELATED ABSENCES

What to do if ....	Action needed	Return to school when ....
My child has Coronavirus symptoms.	<b>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</b> Contact school daily Self-isolate Get a test Inform school immediately about test result	The test comes back negative and they are fever free for 48 hours.
My child tests positive for Coronavirus.	<b>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</b> Inform the school immediately about the test result Contact school daily Self-isolate for at least 10 days	They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of taste or smell/ taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once infection is gone. If they continue to have a high temperature they should stay at home.
Somebody in my household has Coronavirus symptoms.	<b>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL for 14 days</b> Contact school daily Household member to get a test Inform the school immediately about the test result	Stay at home for 14 days after the first person in your home started having symptoms.
Somebody in my household has tested positive with Coronavirus.	<b>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</b> Inform the school immediately about the test result Contact school daily	The child has completed 14 days of self-isolation.
The 'Track and Trace' scheme has identified my child as a close contact of somebody with symptoms of confirmed Coronavirus.	<b>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</b> Contact school daily Self-isolate for 14 days	The child has completed 14 days of self-isolation.
My child has travelled abroad and has to self-isolate as part of the quarantine process.	<i>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed</i> <b>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</b> Contact school daily Self-isolate for 14 days Provide information to the school as per attendance policy	When the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
Staff or pupil in my child's bubble have tested positive	<b>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</b> Inform the school Everyone in the bubble must self-isolate and take a test.	When a negative test is confirmed or the necessary isolation period has been completed.

# Coronavirus Advice

## Super Safe Superheroes

- People are talking about Coronavirus because it is a new type of flu.



- Just like with other colds and flu, it is important to look after ourselves and keep healthy.



- Children and adults are very good at fighting flu

- Just like all colds and flus, it can be harder for older people or people with illnesses to stay healthy from the flu

I can stay healthy by:



Washing our hands in soap:

- ✓ After preparing food
- ✓ After sneezing or blowing your nose
- ✓ Before eating
- ✓ After using the bathroom
- ✓ After playtime



I can stay healthy by:



- Not touching my face
- Not biting by nails
- Not touching outside door handles and railings
- Using hand sanitiser



I can keep others healthy by:

- ✓ Coughing and sneezing into my elbow
- ✓ Putting used tissues in the bin
- ✓ Staying at home if I feel sick



- Just like all colds and flu it will go away, we have to be patient and safe until it goes away.
- I do not need to worry as adults will look after me
- If I am unsure about anything I can talk to my parents and teachers.





# St. Catherine's Nursery & Primary School

## December 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	30. November 2020 <b>Extended Schools:</b> After school soccer Boys P5A 2.45pm – 3.45pm Booster Club P7 2.50pm – 3.50pm	1.  P7 Hope North West: Bobby Keys.	2.  P7 Hope North West: Bobby Keys.	3.  P7 Hope North West: Bobby Keys. <b>Extended Schools:</b> After school soccer Girls P5A 2.45pm – 3.45pm	4.	5.
6.	7. <b>Extended Schools:</b> After school soccer Boys P5B 2.45pm – 3.45pm  Booster Club P7 2.50pm – 3.50pm	8.	9.	10. Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day  <b>Extended Schools:</b> After school soccer Girls	11. Christmas Jumper Day for Charity £1 Donation.	12.
13.	14. <b>Extended Schools:</b> After school soccer Boys P5B 2.45pm – 3.45pm	15.	16.	17. <b>Extended Schools:</b> After school soccer Girls P5B 2.45pm – 3.45pm	18.	19.
20.	21.	22. Christmas Holidays: School closes at 12 noon.	23.	24.	25. Christmas Day	26.
27.	28.	29.	30.	31.		

Show a little kindness today, tomorrow could be too late.





# Winter Menu October 2020

# St Catherine's

**school  
food**

try something new today

[www.schoolfoodni.com](http://www.schoolfoodni.com)

**Fresh bread, cheese & crackers, seasonal salads, fresh fruit, chilled yoghurt, water & milk available daily**

**If you require any additional information on allergens or special diet please contact the school in the first instance**



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week One</b>	Packed Lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch
<b>2nd Nov 30th Nov</b>	Oven roasted sausages Baked Beans/peas Mashed Potato  Frozen yoghurt	Home-made Lean Beef lasagne sweetcorn Herb diced Potatoes  Flakemeal Biscuit	Roast turkey crown roast/mashed potatoes Cauliflower stuffing/roast gravy  Frozen yoghurt	Breaded oven baked fish steamed mixed vegetables Mashed Potato  Home-made fruit muffin	100% NI beef burger in a sesame roll sweetcorn Chipped potatoes  Ice cream tub
<b>Week Two</b>	Packed Lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch
<b>12th Oct 9th Nov 7th Dec</b>	Breaded oven baked fish Oven roasted dice potato potatoes/mixed vegetable  Homemade shortbread	Homemade pasta bologanise crusty roll sweetcorn/salad  Fruit Jelly	Roast NI chicken roast/mashed potatoes Carrots stuffing/roast gravy  Artic Roll	Traditional Cottage pie Mashed potatoes steamed mixed vegetables & beans  Flakemeal biscuit	NI pork sausage served in a soft finger roll topped with saute onions Chipped potatoes  Ice cream tub
<b>Week Three</b>	Packed lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch
<b>19th Oct 16th Nov 14th Dec</b>	Savoury pizza with fresh toppings Baby baked potatoes green beans  Frozen yoghurt	Golden Fish fingers or Salmon fish cakes Baby baked potatoes broccoli & beans  Home-made fruit muffin	Roast loin of NI pork roast/mashed potatoes peas stuffing/roast gravy  Creamy rice pudding	Succulent home-made chicken goujons/garlic dip Oven roasted herb dice potatoes & peas  Fruit Jelly	100% NI beef burger in a sesame roll sweetcorn Chipped potatoes  Ice cream & Fruit
<b>Week Four</b>	Packed lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch	Packed lunch
<b>26th Oct 23rd Nov 21st Dec</b>	Golden Fish fingers or Oven roasted dice potato green beans baked beans  Flakemeal biscuit	Hearty home-made Irish stew made with fresh N.I. produce  Fresh fruit pot	Roast NI chicken roast/mashed potatoes Carrots stuffing/roast gravy  Artic Roll	Homemade chicken bake smothered in Creamy mash Carrots  Homemade shortbread	NI pork sausage served in a soft finger roll topped with saute onions Chipped potatoes  Ice cream tub

**Packed Lunch:**

1. Freshly cut sandwiches/baguette/flour tortilla
2. Whole milk or spring water
3. Salad tub or vegetable sticks
4. Vanilla rice pot/jelly pot/whole fresh fruit/homemade biscuit or chose from desserts above

(packed lunch includes one item from each group)

try something new today