



# In Spires

November 2017

## Open Evening for New P1 Pupils and Parents

This will be held on Monday 4 December at 7.00 pm in the school.

## Punctuality and Attendance

- I am delighted to report that our attendance was 96.6% during the last school year. We aim to build on this and to reach 97% by June 2018.
- Please remember to drop off and collect your child on time. Late collections mean that office staff/teachers cannot attend meetings or leave the office area until each child is collected. Children should be collected **promptly at 2.00 pm and 3.00 pm**. We appreciate your continued support in this area.

## Christmas Performances

Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1  
Pantomime – Thursday  
14 December at 9.30 am and  
repeated at 7.00 pm. Children  
in these classes will go home after  
the morning performance and  
return in costume at 6.45 pm.



Key Stage Carol Service – Friday 15 December at 9.30 am. Children in these classes will go home after the Carol Service.

## Rugby

There is a delay in securing a rugby coach to train the children. Mr B Doyle (Chair of the Board of Governors and parent) will lead after school or afternoon coaching for Key Stage 2 but would appreciate additional support from any parent/volunteer who has rugby/coaching skills. Please leave your details in the school office.

## Road Safety

- Please remember to respect the pedestrian crossings within the school site.
- The Governors are delighted with the response to the 'Turn Left' initiative. This is greatly reducing queuing on the Moneymore Road and making the area around the school a safer place for children and adults.
- Please respect our neighbours in Spires Manor and Sherbourne by not parking in their development.

## Parent Contact Details

- If you receive a voicemail message from school, please respond as it usually concerns your child's health.
- Please provide school with updated mobile phone numbers as these are used for our texting service.
- If you move house, please remember to inform the school.

## Anti-Bullying Week 13 – 17 November

Children engaged in a range of activities and Mrs Griggs led a special assembly.

## Thank you for your Support

- Commission from the Book Fair for books was £586.07. Books are being purchased for our Time to Read programme.
- To all those who donated shoe boxes for Team Hope.

## ECO Committee

Switch Off Fortnight began on Monday 20 November. During this fortnight the Eco Committee will be carrying out an undercover survey to check where lights and electrical appliances are being left on around the school. This is a good way to reduce the school's energy bills and also teaches pupils the importance of saving energy to help protect our environment. We would encourage parents to participate in this energy saving campaign at home too.



## Panto in the Millennium Forum

As you are already aware P3 – P7 pupils have an opportunity to attend the performance of Cinderella in the Millennium Forum on Wednesday 20 December. The subsidised cost is £10 per child and should be paid on or before **Friday 1 December** and the bus is leaving school at **8.30 am sharp**. Therefore, all pupils should be in class at **8.20 am** on this day. They should bring a packed lunch and a snack in a disposable bag.

## Springhill

P1 and P2 will engage in festive activities at Springhill on Wednesday 20 December. They should bring a packed lunch and a snack in a disposable bag. The subsidised cost of this outing is £5 per child and should be paid on or before **Friday 1 December**.



## Rights Respecting School

We successfully achieved the Level 2 Award. Sincere thanks to Mrs Murray, Governors – Ms A Sobieraj and Mrs C Keatley, our RRS Team and whole school community for their work in this area. We are delighted to receive this!



We are very proud of our Rights Respecting Committee who visited Phoenix Integrated Primary School recently, to talk to their pupils about Children’s Rights and the advantages of being a Rights Respecting School.

We are delighted to be awarded the Fair Active Schools Award for all our work on Fairtrade. Being a Fairtrade school offers a great opportunity for our children to look at global issues such as where our food comes from and how we are connected to people around the world.

Thank you to everyone who prepared a Christmas Shoe Box for a child in need. We were delighted to have collected 121 shoe boxes.

P5 is taking part in UNICEF Out Right Campaign 2017. They are learning about the impact of the refugee crisis on children’s right to protection and right to family unification, through activities that encourage empathy and understanding.

## Sperrin Integrated College

Four pupils from Sperrin Integrated College are delivering a reading programme to some pupils in P2.

## Dates for Your Diary

- 4 December Open Night at 7.00 pm - P1 applicants for September 2018
- 7 December School Christmas Dinner – this costs £2.60 and should be **paid on or before Friday 1 December.**
- 12 December Uber – Mental Health Activities – P7  
Choir at Meadowlane Shopping Centre at 2.00 pm – Please come along and support the children.
- 19 December Choir at local Nursing Homes and Bank of Ireland at approximately 12.00 noon – all parents are welcome to listen to the children at the Bank of Ireland.

### Dinner Money/After School Clubs etc

Any money sent to school for dinners or activities eg swimming, clubs etc should be in an envelope with the correct amount inside.

All payments should be made on time in order to cut down on administration time.

Thank you.

School closes on Friday 22 December at 11.30 am for P1, P2 and siblings, 12.00 noon for all other children.

### This is a non-uniform day.

Term 2 begins on Monday 8 January 2018.

All After School Clubs will resume on the week beginning Monday 8 January. A note will be sent out in January regarding payment. Payments should be made promptly and if your child wishes to withdraw from a club, we must be notified **in writing.** If numbers in clubs fall due to children withdrawing, then the club may have to be cancelled.

There will be no school dinner available on Thursday 14 December and Thursday 21 December. **All** children should bring a packed lunch on these days