MILLINGTON NURSERY SCHOOL

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2023

The theme for this month will be Christmas Time; we will focus on Christmas colours – red, green, gold and silver and our shape will be a star.

Throughout December, if you wish, the children may wear a Christmas jumper instead of their red school jumper, especially on our fun days such as the Christmas dinner.

**Thursday 30th November – Decorating the Classroom**

Our Christmas festivities commence on this day when the children help us to decorate the classroom and Christmas trees.

Over the next few weeks your children will make several decorations to bring home, we are sure you will love them, the glitter especially!

**Monday 11th December Christmas Outing to Visit Santa**

We have been personally invited by St Marks Church to visit their Christmas Grotto in the Bell Tower. The children will travel to and from the church by coach. They will get to meet Santa and will receive a gift, chocolate coin and candy cane. They can post their letter (or a picture they have drawn) to Santa and will get to complete some Christmas crafts. We are really looking forward to this outing. Children must wear their school jumpers (and coats if they have one) on this day as it helps us see our children easily. A permission slip for this trip will be sent home in plastic wallets next week.

**Wednesday 15th December Sportmas**

This is a new adventure for us, CJ and Emily from Jones JR Sports are coming to school to deliver their Christmas activity session with Christmas characters to get the children moving, Christmas challenges and festive music.

**There will be a small charge of £2.50 per child to go towards the cost of the sports session, visit to Santa and transport.**

**Thursday 14th Annual School Christmas Dinner**

This is one of the highlights of the school year when children are provided with a special festive meal with Christmas music, table decorations and crackers. They may wear their Christmas jumpers on this day.

**Friday 15th –Christmas Jumper Day & Sing-along**

As part of our Christmas celebration, we will be participating in the Christmas “Santa Cause” fundraising campaign, which supports the charity – NI cancer fund for children. Children may come to school wearing a Christmas jumper or one of their own jumpers that has been decorated with tinsel or baubles. We are asking for you to make a small contribution towards this appeal. Please place your donation in an envelope and bring to school on the morning of our celebration.

We are inviting parents to join with us at 12.30pm (sharp) when the children will sing some of our favourite Christmas songs for you. We are asking parents to gather in our playground by N1 & N2 (on the playground side of the low-level fencing). The children will perform under the covered area, the show will go on unless the weather is very poor (you may need a coat and umbrella).

We would love all our children, parents, and friends to wear a festive hat and jumper for this performance.

Children will leave for home after we have performed for you. More details will be sent home closer to the time.

**Tuesday 19th Cinema Day**

 The children will watch a Christmas cartoon on the big screen and have popcorn and crisps to eat, just like at the real cinema.

**Wednesday 20th – A Christmas Adventure! School Christmas Party and Visit from Santa**

We plan to create a simple Santa Grotto in our playground, the children will have to follow the special Christmas wonderland trail to find Santa in his cosy cabin. We have Christmas lights and a few large decorations for outdoors. We will also have some snow!! (I think as usual I am more excited than the children about the possibility of snow!!) The North Pole elves will be up to mischief and will be hiding outside for the children to find. We will get some hot chocolate and treats for our break.

The children can come to school wearing their Christmas Jumpers and Christmas hats or party clothes. We will learn some Christmas dances, play some fun games and hopefully Santa will visit with some presents for the good boys and girls! The catering team will also have special party food for our lunch**.**

If anyone has any large outdoor decorations that they no longer need, or that we can borrow for a few days please can you let us know, as most of our decorations are for indoor use. We need snowmen, reindeer, penguins, or anything else that you can think of that might help us make the day special.

**September 2024 Application Forms**

This year, the Application process for admission to Primary 1 or Nursery School, in September 2024 is the same online process as you would have followed last year. The application portal will be live on the Education Authority Website from Tuesday 9th January at 12.00 noon. If you know of any children who is the age to commence nursery in September 2024, please inform their parents of this date. I would advise all parents to wait for a few days before completing their nursery or year 1 forms as the system tends to crash over the first few days due to the high volume of parents accessing it.

We will be holding an **Open Day on Wednesday 3rd January from 12.30pm until 3.30pm**. If you know of any parent who may be considering sending their child to our school please inform them of this day, especially if they need further information or guidance.

**The Application process will close for Nursery and Year 1 on Friday 26th January 2024 at 12 noon.**

**Please note that all our current nursery children MUST apply for year 1 online otherwise they may not gain a place in your school of choice next year.**

**Health and Safety Reminder** (there is always one!)

To ensure the safety of our children, please remember not to park in the school car parks or use the road gates for access. Please ensure you are parked legally and safely and are not blocking sight lines on any corners or safe sight lines used by Iris the Primary School Lollipop lady when helping children cross the road safely.

**Christmas Holidays**

School will close for the Christmas Holidays on Thursday 21st December 2023. Children are to be collected between 10.50 and 11.00am on this morning. They do not need to wear their uniform.

School will reopen at 8.45am on Thursday 4th January 2024.

*The staff of Millington Nursery School would like to take this opportunity to wish all our children and their families a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.*



Regards

Mrs Millar, Mrs Savage, Mrs Stretton,

Mrs McKittrick and Mrs Curran

If your child wishes to send a letter to Santa the following address will ensure the children get a reply before Christmas –

Mr Santa Claus

Reindeer land

SAN TA1

Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow
In a one-horse open sleigh,
O'er the fields we go,
Laughing all the way.
Bells on bob-tails ring,
Making spirits bright.
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight, oh!

Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Jingle all the way.
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh, hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Jingle all the way.
Oh what fun it is to ride,
In a one-horse open sleigh.

Santa Claus is Coming to Town

You better watch out
You better not cry
You better not pout
I'm telling you why
Santa Claus is coming to town.

He's making a list,
He's checking it twice,
He's going to find out who's naughty or nice
Santa Claus is coming to town.

He sees you when you're sleeping
And he knows when you're awake
He knows if you've been bad or good
So be good for goodness sake





When Santa Got Stuck

When Santa got stuck the chimney, he began to shout
"You girls and boys won't get any toys
If you don't pull me out
My beard is black
There's soot in my sack
My nose is tickling too!"
When Santa got stuck up the chimney
A-choo, a-choo, a-choo!