



**BIRCHES PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**Newsletter**  
**November / December 2018**

**After School Activities**

After school activities will start on the week beginning **Monday 5 November to Thursday 13 December**.

<b>Monday:</b>	Speech/Drama Club	P3-P4	Mrs Dunlop	2.35pm – 3.30pm
	Netball	P5-P7 (Girls)	Miss Burton	2.35pm – 3.30pm
	Mini Rugby	P5-P7 (Boys)	<b>(Starting on Monday 19 November)</b>	
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Scrum and Try Rugby	P2-P3		1.30pm – 2.30pm
	Scrum and Try Rugby	P4-P7		2.35pm – 3.30pm
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Teddy Tennis	P3		1.30pm – 2.15pm
	Fitness	P4-P7		2.35pm – 3.30pm
<b>Thursday:</b>	Badminton	P4-P5	Mrs Greer	2.35pm – 3.30pm
	STEM	P6-P7	Mrs McLelland	2.35pm – 3.30pm

**There will be no after school activities on Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 November.**

**School Disco – Friday 9 November 6.00pm to 7.30pm**

The PTA have organised a disco for all children who attend the Birches Primary School.

Tickets are available in school at £2.50 per child.

**Anti-Bullying Week – Monday 12 November – Friday 16 November**

**‘Wear Yellow 4 Respect’ Campaign - Friday 16 November – Non-Uniform Day**

During this week the children will be carrying out a range of activities linked to Anti-Bullying week. Part of these activities include the ‘Wear Yellow 4 Respect’ Campaign. On Friday 16 November the children can wear something yellow. This is a non-uniform day and the children can wear a piece of clothing with yellow in it or a scarf or hair band etc...

**Parent Interviews – Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 November**

School will close early on both of these days. In order to ease traffic congestion, we have staggered collection times.

- Children from P1 to P3 (and older brothers and sisters) are to be collected at 1.10pm.
- Children from P4 to P7 are to be collected at 1.20pm.
- The school bus will be available for children who normally travel on it at 1.30pm

Parent interviews will commence at 1.40pm. Please make sure you have returned your parent interview sheet stating the day and time you prefer to your child’s class teacher.

**P7 Trip to Ranfurly House – Victorian Christmas – Monday 3 December**

Children from P7 have been learning about life in Victorian Times during their World Around Us. They will be going to Ranfurly House in Dungannon to learn more about Christmas during the Victorian era.

**Pantomime P1 – P3 - Tuesday 4 December**

Children from P1 to P3 will be given the opportunity to see ‘World of Wonders’ at The Bardic Theatre, Donaghmore. This will take place on Tuesday 4 December.

The children will leave school at 9.30am and will **NOT be back in time for School Dinner**.

They will need to bring a packed lunch with them which they can eat on their return.

All children will go home at their usual time.

The cost of admission to the pantomime is £8.00 per child and can be brought to their class teacher by Friday 30 November.

**P4 – P7 Christmas Dinner Tuesday 4 December**

Christmas Dinner for children from P4 to P7 is on Tuesday 4 December. If your child wishes to take dinner on this day it is very important that they let their teacher know on Monday 3 December for catering purposes.

**Pantomime P4 – P7– Wednesday 5 December**

Children from P4 to P7 will be given the opportunity to see ‘Aladdin’ at The Market Place, Armagh.

The children will leave school at 9.15am and will **NOT be back in time for School Dinner**.

They will need to bring a packed lunch with them which they can eat on their return at approximately 12.40pm.

All children will go home at their usual time.

The cost of admission to the pantomime is £8.00 per child and can be brought to their class teacher by Friday 30 November.

**P1 – P3 Christmas Dinner Wednesday 5 December**

Christmas Dinner for children from P1 to P3 is on Wednesday 5 December. If your child wishes to take dinner on this day it is very important that they let their teacher know on Monday 3 December for catering purposes.





### **Open Morning– Wednesday 5 December 9.00am – 12.00pm**

Parents of prospective P1 pupils will be given the opportunity to view the school with the Principal, meet the staff and see our children in their classrooms working and learning together.

### **Milltown Church Carol Service – Monday 10 December 6.30pm**

Our school will be holding a Carol Service at Milltown Church on the evening of Monday 10 December with children from P5 to P7. This starts at 6.30pm and everyone is welcome.

### **P3 and P4 Christmas Performance Tuesday 11 December \* CHANGE OF DATE\***

The P3 and P4 Christmas Performance will start at 10.00am and should end at approximately 11.15am.

### **P1 and P2 Christmas Performance Wednesday 12 December**

The P1 and P2 Christmas Performance will begin at 10.00am and should end at approximately 11.00am.

### **Save the Children – Friday 14 December – Christmas Jumper Day**

Children can wear a special 'Christmas Jumper', a Santa hat or come to school in their own clothes to help raise money for Save the Children. If children wish to take part they can bring £1.00.

### **Party Days and Non-Uniform Days**

Christmas parties will take place on Wednesday 19 December.

Non-uniform days on Wednesday 19, Thursday 20 and Friday 21 December

### **Early Closing**

**Thursday 20 December** - School will close early. In order to ease traffic congestion, we have staggered collection times.

- Children from P1 to P3 (and older brothers and sisters) are to be collected at 1.00pm.
- Children from P4 to P7 are to be collected at 1.10pm.
- The school bus will be available for children who normally travel on it at 1.15pm

**Friday 21 December** - School will close early. In order to ease traffic congestion, we have staggered collection times.

- Children from P1 to P3 (and older brothers and sisters) are to be collected at 12.00pm.
- Children from P4 to P7 are to be collected at 12.10pm.
- The school bus will be available for children who normally travel on it at 12.15pm

### **NO DINNER SERVED TODAY**

### **Medical Information**

Please keep the school informed of any recently diagnosed allergies or other medical conditions.

### **Allergies - Reminder**

We have several children in school who have severe allergies. Therefore, it is extremely important that **NO NUTS or KIWI or foods containing nuts** are to be brought to school by the children. Thank you.

### **Contact Details**

Please ensure that school has an up to date phone number on which to contact you on. If you have moved house recently please make sure that you have notified school of your child's new address. If you have not been receiving text messages from school, please contact Mrs Watson.

### **School Uniform**

Please ensure children's names are on all coats, sweatshirts and on clothes that are removed to change for P.E and swimming. Please use name tabs as names written in ink can wear off during the year.

The only piece of jewellery to be worn in school is a watch.

For health and safety reasons **earrings, rings and necklaces are not to be worn.**

### **Contacting School**

If you are concerned or unsure of anything relating to your child please do not worry at home, pick up the phone and speak to either Mrs Watson or your child's teacher. We will be only too willing to talk to you after school at a mutually convenient time.





## Dates for your Diary



### **P7 Trip to Ranfurly House**

Monday 3 December

### **School Disco**

Friday 9 November – 6.00pm – 7.30pm

### **'Wear Yellow 4 Respect' – Anti-bullying week**

Friday 16 November – Children can wear something yellow (No charge)

### **Parent Interviews**

Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 November

School closes early (see Newsletter for details)

### **P1 – P3 Trip to the Pantomime**

Tuesday 4 December – 'World of Wonders' £8.00

### **P4 – P7 Christmas Dinner**

Tuesday 4 December

### **P4 – P7 Trip to the Pantomime**

Wednesday 5 December – 'Aladdin' £8.00

### **P1 – P3 Christmas Dinner**

Wednesday 5 December

### **Carol Service – Milltown Church 6.30pm**

Monday 10 December

### **P3 – P4 Christmas Performance**

Tuesday 11 December 10.00am

### **P1 – P2 Christmas Performance**

Wednesday 12 December 10.00am

### **Save the Children – Christmas Jumper Day**

Friday 14 December (£1.00 per child to go to Save the Children)

### **Christmas Parties**

Wednesday 19 December

### **Wednesday 19, Thursday 20 December and Friday 21 December**

Non-Uniform Day (No Charge)

### **Early Closing**

**Thursday 20 December** - School will finish at 1.00pm for P1 – P3 children and older brothers and sisters

1.10pm for P4 – P7 children.

1.15pm – school bus

**Friday 21 December** – School will finish at 12.00pm for P1 – P3 children and older brothers and sisters

**NO DINNER SERVED TODAY** 12.10pm for P4 – P7 children

12.15pm – school bus

### **School Reopens**

Thursday 3 January

***I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year***

