



**ACORN INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL, NURSERY &
PLAYGROUP**

November 2019 Newsletter

Website: www.acornips.com



Contact Numbers/email addresses: Please ensure the school is informed of any changes to contact details, especially mobile phone numbers as these change quite frequently. We will be using both text and email to communicate with you. Please note we can only send information to one address/phone number. Information can also be found on the school website.

PLEASE NOTE THAT MOST COMMUNICATION WILL BE SENT OUT BY EMAIL. PLEASE CHECK YOUR NOMINATED ACCOUNT REGULARLY.

Open Evening and Morning

If your child is due to start either Nursery or Primary 1 in September 2019 our Open Evening for parents of prospective Nursery/Primary 1 children will be held on Wednesday 13 November at 6.30pm and our Open Morning will be Thursday 14 November at 9.30am. Please phone the office for details and to book a place. If you are aware of friends with children who are due to start Nursery or Primary 1 next year, please pass this information on.



Food Bank Donations and Shoeboxes



Thank you for all of your donations to the Air Ambulance charity, the food bank and the Christmas Shoeboxes. Your donations will make significant differences to the lives of others.

Poppies for Sale



Poppies are on sale in school during the week beginning 4 November.

Parents' Council News



1. Sponsored Dance

The Parents' Council have asked Jo Britland to come into school on Friday 22 November to hold a sponsored dance event with all classes from Nursery to Primary 7. Children are encouraged to wear tracksuits and a school polo shirt that day. The funds raised will go towards the school fundraising account. A sponsor sheet will be sent out separately with each child.

2. Christmas Fair



The Parents' Council have been busy planning **the Christmas Fair which will be on Friday 29 November from 6.00 to 8.00pm.** From now on, please send in donations of bars and bottles for the bar and bottle stall, £1 wrapped prizes suitable for children, good quality second hand books and toys, good quality teddies for the teddy tombola. From Wednesday 27 November please send in baked goods for that stall.

You will soon receive ballot tickets and we would appreciate if you would do your best to sell these tickets and even ask for some more! If you run a business and would like to donate a prize for the ballot, then please contact Mrs Webb via the school office.

3. Movie and Munch Day Friday 13 December

Classes will be having a movie and munch day on Friday 13 December, a small tuck shop will be available on the day.

Shared Education - Mental Health Workshops



You will see in the dates for your diary section that the Primary 5 and 6 children will be participating in mental health workshops. As last year a workshop is being offered to parents and this year it will be held in Oakfield Primary School. As the information given about supporting your child is well thought out and practical, I would encourage you to attend this

workshop.

School Nativities



Please see the dates for the dates for your diary section for the timings for the school nativities. For Primary 1-7 children, the performances will be ticketed and a letter will be coming out to you shortly which will include details about how to book your tickets. For Playgroup and Nursery no tickets are required.

Christmas Jumper Day



As has become our tradition, the last day of term is non uniform and the children are encouraged to wear a seasonal or Christmas Jumper. The suggested donation is £1 with the funds raised going to the school's charity (Air Ambulance) and the ASDUM foundation who support the Primary 4 children's learning about Madagascar. See <https://adsumfoundation.org/> for more information about the work that they do in Madagascar

Recycling



Reminder! In school we raise funds through recycling clothes (clothes bank by the pedestrian entrance) and recycling used ink cartridges and toners (send these into the school office). All funds raised go towards the purchase of equipment to support your children's learning.

Parents contacting school



Parents are welcome to contact school via email or telephone. Please note, that all teaching staff have teaching commitments and will be unavailable to take a phone call from a parent when teaching. If a parent leaves a message with office staff, this will be forwarded to the relevant staff who will return the call as soon as possible or offer an appointment. If the call refers to an urgent pastoral matter, then please ask for the message to be forwarded to a member of the Child Protection Team.

Child Protection/Safeguarding Children

Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Team are:

Board of Gov Chairperson:	Dr A Gregory
Designated Teacher:	Mrs A Rolloos
Deputy Designated Teacher:	Mrs S McIlmail
Principal and Health and Safety Co-ordinator:	Mrs C Webb
Govs with Child Protection responsibility:	Dr A Gregory and Mrs T Phillips

School office opening hours:



8.45am – 12.15pm, closed for lunch 12.15pm to 12.45pm, reopens 12.45pm to 3.15pm.

Mrs C M Webb

Principal

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- Mon 4 Nov P6 attended an Ulster Orchestra concert
- From Tues 5 Nov Poppies on sale this week
- Thur 7 Nov P5 Shared Education visit to Jack Straws Café with Oakfield
- Thur 7 Nov P3 Shared Education visit to Oakfield
- Thur 7 Nov P6 first swimming session
- Thur 7 Nov 7.00pm Parents' Council meeting – all parents/guardians welcome
- Fri 8 Nov P7 next residential instalment due in (£25)
- Sat 9 Nov AQE (1)
- Wed 13 Nov P5 Mental Health workshop (in class time)
- Wed 13 Nov 6.30 – 7.30pm **Open Evening** – all parents/guardians of prospective Playgroup, Nursery and Primary 1 children welcome
- Thurs 14 Nov 9.30am - **Open Morning** – all parents/guardians of prospective Playgroup, Nursery and Primary 1 children welcome
- Sat 16 Nov GL assessments
- Mon 18 Nov 6.30 AGM in school assembly hall
- Wed 20 Nov P6 Mental Health workshop (in class time)
- Thur 21 Nov P1 Shared Education visit to Oakfield
- Fri 22 Nov Sponsored dance (in class time) – wear tracksuit and Acorn PE shirt into school
- Sat 23 Nov AQE (2)
- Thur 28 Nov 7.00 – 9.00pm Mental Health workshop for parents/guardians in Oakfield Primary School – all welcome
- Fri 29 Nov Last day for orders for Christmas dinner
- Fri 29 Nov **School closes at 2.00pm for all children** to allow set up of Christmas Fair
- Fri 29 Nov 6.00 – 8.00pm **CHRISTMAS FAIR**
- Sat 30 Nov AQE (3)

DECEMBER – save the dates!

- Fri 6 Dec 9.30 Nursery Nativity
- Fri 6 Dec 1.30pm Playgroup Christmas Celebration
- Sat 7 Dec Supplementary GL assessment
- Mon 9 Dec 9.30am Primary 1 – 4 Nativity
- Tues 10 Dec 9.30am Primary 1 – 4 Nativity
- Tues 10 Dec 11.00am Primary 5 -7 Nativity
- Wed 11 Dec 9.30am Primary 1 – 4 Nativity
- Wed 11 Dec 11.00am Primary 5 -7 Nativity
- Thur 12 Dec **SCHOOL CLOSED, IN USE AS POLLING STATION**
- Fri 13 Dec Movie and Munch Day (suggested donation £1)
- Mon 16 Dec School choir singing at Carrick Manor
- Wed 19 Dec Christmas Dinner (order in by Fri 29 November)
- Fri 20 Dec Christmas jumper day (suggested donation £1 for Air Ambulance and ASDUM foundation)
- Fri 20 Dec School closes at 12 noon for the Christmas Holidays

JANUARY 2020

- Mon 6 Jan School closed for children to allow staff training
- Tues 7 Jan School opens at 8.55am