



# NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017

*We bring you 'Newsletter 2' of the 17/18 school year. As we shared with you in October as of this year ALL information is on our website [www.camphillps.co.uk](http://www.camphillps.co.uk) which means the 'Newsletter' at the end of each half term will only be a reference to information on the website or additional information we wish to share with you. All photographs & videos will be posted on the website which is updated very regularly throughout the month.*

*Please take time to look at our website as lots of information and dates are on this and only a further text reminder will be sent regarding dates etc... Each Monday the website's 'Ticker Tape' (red scrolling line) is updated with the main information needed for the week ahead - so it is very important that you do check this.*

*(More diary dates for JAN & FEB will be added to the calendar on the 4/1/18.)*

Since our last newsletter it has been a very busy few weeks - in **November & December** a variety of events and activities in and 'out of school' have been taking place:- have you looked at the numerous photos and videos on our website?

## **Website News Posts - during NOV/DEC!!!!!!**

- EGGS-periment - P4
- Helping Hands Programme P3/4
- Sustrans School Mark - 'Bronze' Award
- 101 Shoeboxes away to Blythswood Care
- NSPCC cheque presentation - £700.00
- ECO Celebration Assembly - Eco Warriors, Eco Councillors & Eco Committee presented with badges
- Attendance Cup class awards
- Children in Need day
- P7 Art Club
- P5 Jujitsu
- P3 Visit from the Firefighters
- Anti-Bullying week
- Numeracy in P4
- Teeth Talk in P4
- Action Cancer workshops P4
- P1/2 Nativity - 'Angel Express'
- School Council meeting
- Football Congratulations
- P5/6 Football club

- P6JH Basketball
- P6 French Club
- P2 Polar Lands
- P3 Corridor displays
- Little Stars Club
- 'Tangled' Pantomime at Green Pastures - P4 & P5
- P5 Art Club
- Elves arrive in P3
- P6/7 watch 'Joseph' at Dunclug College
- P5 Action Cancer workshop
- Eco Council meetings
- P6/7 attend Ballymena Academy Xmas Concert
- P2 Numeracy Activities
- P2 Learning through Play
- P6/7 Orchestra members perform 'live'
- School Christmas Dinner
- 'Jingle All the Way' to school Sustran Challenge
- P6 Swimming
- P7 Art and Technology work
- NOVEMBER VIPs
- P5 Numeracy Work
- Numeracy Displays throughout the school
- P6 Numeracy Activities
- Senior Choir perform 'live' at Radio Cracker
- P3/4/5 Carol Service at Wellington
- Junior Choir perform 'live'
- Christmas fun & Xmas crafts in P5
- 'Save the Children' Christmas Jumper Day
- PTA Quiz prize winners
- PTA Funds raised in TERM 1 - £2500!!!
- P3 Post a letter
- Christmas Party Day
- December VIPS
- Pantomime Trip to The SSE ARENA P2-P7
- Pantomime Trip to The Braid P1
- Santa arrives to visit the Boys & Girls!

## **THANK-YOU**

A very big and sincere thank-you to all parents, family and friends who have supported our Christmas events this year and helped raise a large amount of money for the school and other charitable organisations. This has been very much appreciated by all!

From our PTA Christmas events alone we have raised a massive £2500.00 inside two months! WOW! Thank you to the PTA for organising all the events as this money is desperately needed to buy resources and provide our 'added extras' in these very hard financial school budget times. Funds this year are also going to contribute towards new 'play materials' and reading materials which are needed - so every penny will count! Thank you to all the ladies who helped out at any of the PTA events over this term as your help has been very much appreciated!

Ticket sales from our P1 & P2 performances came to a grand total of **£440.00**. At our P3, P4 & P5 Wellington Church Carol Service donations came to **£288.00** with £150.00 going to Scripture Union NI and the rest going towards school funds. THANK-YOU!

### Christmas Performances

Primary 1 & 2, 3, 4 & 5 Christmas performances are now over and a huge thanks must go to all the children and staff for providing us with such brilliant and enjoyable Christmas performances. Every pupil involved gave of their very best and were a credit to the school! Congratulations to all who were involved! We also wish to thank Rachel from Scripture Union NI for speaking at the P3, P4 & P5 Carol Service.

### CHARITY thanks!

This term to date Camphill PS has raised just over **£2400.00** - a massive thank you to every parent, extended family member, child or member of the community who has donated in any way. Below are the total amounts raised since September 2017:-

- NSPCC - £700.00
- Children in Need - £1100.00
- Save the Children - £200.00
- Radio Cracker - £250.00
- Scripture Union NI - £150.00

### Ballymena Rotary Club

On behalf of the Rotary Club - Thank-you for the large boxes of food we were able to pass on to the club for distribution in the Ballymena

## CONGRATULATIONS - BABY NEWS!

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Greer, Literacy Support Teacher & SENCO gave birth a baby girl, Jessica, on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November! We wish them both well.

### School Prospectus

We have had a very successful 'Open Day' on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December - have a look at our new 2017/18 'School Prospectus' on the website.

### NOVEMBER & DECEMBER VIPs

We congratulate our November & December VIPs (Very Important/Impressive Pupils) who were presented with their certificates and their invitations to the Principal's TEA PARTY! **See photos & names on the website.**

### 'HEARTSTART'

As many of you are already aware - our P7s take part in the British Heart Foundation Schools Programme - Heartstart each year - this excellent programme equips our P7s with emergency life-saving skills should such an event occur. This will be our 15<sup>th</sup> year delivering the Heartstart programme and we are proud of the fact that so many children leave Camphill PS with emergency skills equipping them to help with choking, severe bleeding, recognition of heart attack symptoms and if necessary CPR. Our eight Heartstart Instructors (Mrs Jamieson, Mrs Henderson, Mrs McLarnon, Mrs Woods, Mrs Glendinning, Mrs Davis, Mrs McLaughlin and Miss Crawford) have successfully completed their yearly Heartstart update training - so Camphill is Heartstart ready!

'Anti-Bullying' Policy - consultation now closed - if you wish to read the full copy of the 'Anti-Bullying' Policy you will find this on the website.

### Absence Notification note

Please find a downloadable format on the website to be printed off and completed when your child returns from being off school. Thank you!

**CAR PARK REMINDER** As the daylight hours get shorter please remember to keep vigilant around the school car parking areas - SLOW DOWN and take your time is the key message! Please remember that our Building Supervisor is in charge of monitoring and maintaining traffic movement around the building and his instructions must be followed at all times. Any car persistently not following parking guidelines will be asked to remain outside the school grounds. Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated.

Our Building Supervisor works extremely hard to patrol and keep the grounds safe and he is commended for his hard work in the past couple of weeks in 'battling' the snow/ice each morning at 7am in order to get everyone onto the school grounds. Andy cleared snow away from around the school grounds in his own time over the weekend and we pass on our thanks for all his hard work. Keeping the school grounds passable was a massive job! The roads outside the school were extremely hazardous and caused concern for us all however this is a DOE Roads Service matter and not the school but we would encourage you to join the campaign for Camphill and Carolhill Park to be gritted!

On a more negative note it has been reported that our Building Supervisor was mentioned on 'Facebook' recently. Yet again one/two parents are forgetting that social media is not for public defamation of character! Also, a very small number of parents/childminders have failed to follow Andy's instructions and a few issues have occurred - unfortunately for one car they are no longer allowed into school grounds. Please respect and follow the Building Supervisor's instructions/guidance. Please remember he is there to do his job, as directed by the Principal and if there is any issue regarding the following of his instructions then other alternative parking arrangements outside the school building will be issued.

### **Personalised Christmas Cards**

Thank you to the large number of parents who ordered the personalised Christmas cards. These have now all been received and the school was delighted by the finished product. The

school raised **£370.00** commission from this - Thank-you.

### **School Christmas Dinner**

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December nearly all the pupils and staff enjoyed a tasty Christmas Dinner made by Sandra and her team in our school canteen. Thank-you Sandra and all your team - it was delicious!! (*see photos on the website*)

### **SCHOOL CHOIR & ORCHESTRA**

A special mention to the School Junior & Senior Choirs and Orchestra who have performed on numerous occasions over the last few weeks - please go to the website and listen to them all perform as they are fabulous!!

Thank you to Mrs Archibald, our Music Coordinator, along with her team Mrs Henderson and Mrs Davis who have been busily preparing the pupils for these public performances.

*The Senior Choir are performing at the 'PEACE PROMS' at The SSE ARENA on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 3pm. Tickets are now on sale via TICKETMASTER.*

### **Christmas Party Day & Movie Night**

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December we finished off our busy term by enjoying class parties and then a movie night! What an exciting day!

Thanks to PTA funds all pupils enjoyed a disco and had drinks, crisps and sweets at their parties.

### **Pantomime Trip**

All arrangements for this year's visit have now been finalised - **all final arrangements have been sent home via letter with a final text reminder sent.**

### **Last Day of Term - Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

Children do not need to wear school uniform and may dress as festive as they wish. I have made contact with 'Reindeerland' in Lapland and have been told that Santa is available to visit Ballymena schools in the morning but may have to leave his reindeers outside the town in some field. Hopefully he will be able to arrange an alternative mode of transport and call into Camphill before 12noon. *Thank you to PTA funds*

and the 'Triangle' project, adults with learning disabilities, who assisted Santa and his elves!

Home also is a selection box gift purchased by each staff member for all the pupils in their class.

## School holidays

School will close for the Christmas holidays at 12 noon on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December and reopen on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018. There will no Breakfast Club, morning break snacks or school meals served from the canteen on this date. Breakfast Club will resume on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Please ensure your child is collected promptly at 12noon on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, for children travelling home by bus this will operate as normal on this day but at the earlier time of 12 noon.

## School Holidays

### Spring Term

School resumes on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018

### Half - Term

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018 (inclusive)

### Easter

School Closes - Weds 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 12noon

### Summer Term

School resumes on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

School closes Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 12noon.

## EVENTS & DATES TO NOTE

P1 'Sep'18' intake - all applications forms must be received by Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January at 12noon.

## Dates for the rest of the year!

Dates for all events are on the website for the rest of the school year and will be added to again as we organise events - please check what is happening each month as we will only be sending out a reminder text message a day in advance of most main school events.

## Christmas Greetings

May I take this opportunity on behalf of the pupils, staff and governors of the school to wish you all a very Happy and enjoyable Christmas and a prosperous New Year!



K McMaster Dec '17

## OUTSIDE SCHOOL EVENTS & INFORMATION we have received.....

*Invitation to Sunday School at Ballymena Gospel Hall - Each Sunday from 10am - 10:45am.*

