



MACOSQUIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

November 2019 Monthly News

MACOSQUIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

"MOTIVATING YOUR POTENTIAL TO SHINE"

Prospective pupils and parents we invite you to our
OPEN EVENING & OPEN MORNING 2019

Monday 2nd December 7-8.30pm Tuesday 3rd December 10-11am
 Principal's Talk 7pm Principal's Talk 10am

Come along and see our school in action

If you are unable to attend please contact the school for a personal tour - Telephone 028 7034 4317 or Email lmcelwee632@macosquinps.coleraine.ni.sch.uk macosquinps.co.uk

MPS FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION HALLOWEEN DISCO

Our annual Halloween Disco raised an amazing £643.00. We would like to thank everyone who supported us by coming along on the night and our Friends' Association for organising this fun-filled event!



The school community is invited to St Mary's Big Breakfast on Saturday 16th November 9am - 12 noon. Our children have made a range of crafts which will be on sale at this event.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

MACOSQUIN Primary School



The School Council members for the year 2019-20 have been elected and begun their drive to ensure Macosquin Primary School continues to shine! The members have met a number of times and have already helped to organise a bake sale for children in Need and the implementation of the MPS Coins reward system across the school.

The School Council's main aim is making sure that every pupil in our school feels listened to and that their voice is important. That is why, after each School Council meeting, our representatives have gone back to their classes and fed back any decisions they have made as well as asking for suggestions for the next meeting.

Our School Council Representatives this year are:

- P4: Saskia & Jamie
- P5: Caitlin & Harry
- P6S: Harry & Brooke
- P6G: Jay & Isabella
- P7: Jaden & Jack

ECO CLUB NEWS

Eco committee have been keeping a close eye on our school bins! The committee members have been checking out the contents of the bins when they are emptying them each day and talking to the classes (and teachers) about using them correctly. They have also updated the posters on the bins to remind the rest of the children what should go in each one. This month eco committee will be carrying out 'spot checks' on the weight of each bin, as part of our work on the Eco Schools 'waste' topic. Which class are the best at keeping their waste to a minimum? Find out next month!



Based on the results of our 'Environmental Review', Eco Committee have decided to focus on the Eco Schools topics of 'waste' and 'biodiversity' during this school year. Updates on both topics will be provided throughout the year on the monthly news, website and Facebook.

BOOK FAIR UPDATE



The amount of books sold in our recent book fair was outstanding! We are delighted to have received the amount of £368.40 to spend on new books for our children. We are so proud of our children and parents for sharing the value we place on reading. The exciting part of a successful book fair isn't just that our children are reading more at home but that we can now buy even more reading resources for the school to support 'every' young reader!

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT IN ICT



The internet has opened up a whole new world of dangers and opportunities for our young children. Through our e-safety scheme all children from P1 to P7 are taught valuable lessons at an age-appropriate level to ensure they are aware of and understand a range of e-safety issues. We are now in our second year of rolling out this scheme and children are now receiving two lessons per half term. In September of this year all staff were trained in Digital Storytelling and in particular how to use the app 'CLIPS'. Children from P1 to P7 have enjoyed exploring Clips and presenting their work to other classes and their peers.



Pumpkin Competition

Well done to all our extremely talented and creative pupils who took part in the Pumpkin Competition! The talent was outstanding!



We would like to wish our pupils all the best with their first AQE assessment paper on Saturday.

Good Luck also to our pupils who are sitting their Lamda Exams on this day.



POPPY APPEAL

Poppies and other merchandise are now on sale in school. Proceeds are in aid of The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

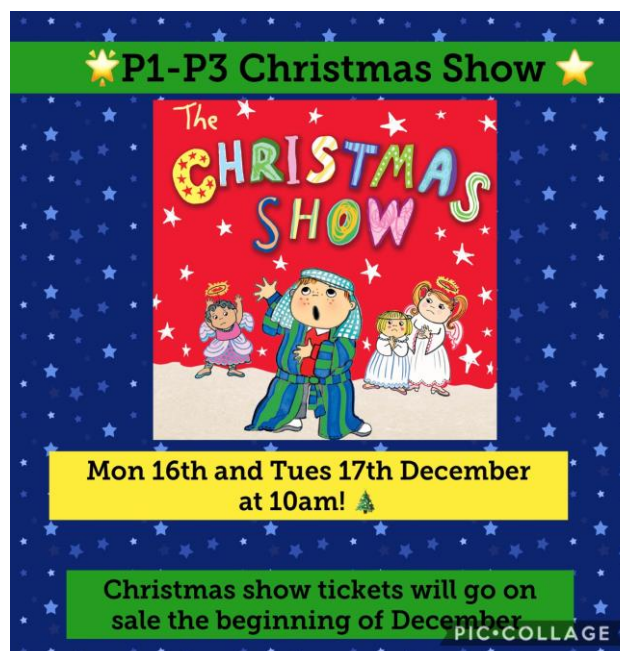


Road Safety Week will be on 18th - 22nd November. We will have a visit from PSNI on Monday 18th November and pupils will complete a range of activities to raise awareness on how to keep safe and be seen at this time of year.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



This year the theme for Anti-Bullying Week 2019 is 'Change Starts With Us' and runs from 11th - 15th November. All pupils will be focusing on Anti-Bullying in school and we will be raising awareness through special assemblies and class activities. We will also be holding an 'Odd Socks Day' on Tuesday 12th November to show how we are all different and unique.



Silver Celebration!





Sustrans School Mark Silver
2018/19
Excellence in Sustainable Travel



To celebrate our Silver Sustrans School Mark Award we are having a 'silver day' on Friday 15th November

Dress to impress in silver e.g. clothes, jewellery, hair, bling your bike/scooter in silver

Try to travel actively on the day. Walking Bus will run as normal

Thank you for your ongoing support with 'Active Travel'. It is wonderful to see so many families walking, scooting and cycling to and from school!

PIC-COLLAGE

SHOEBOX APPEAL

A huge thank you to everyone who has already sent in a shoebox for the 'Operation Christmas Child' shoebox appeal. As the shoeboxes are being collected from school on Friday 8th November, could any outstanding shoeboxes please be sent to school by Thursday 7th November.

Thank you for your support with this worthwhile cause.



CHILDRENS' CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Christmas Lunch will be served on Thursday 5th December



Turkey, Stuffing, Cocktail Sausages, Carrots & Peas, Mashed & Roast Potatoes with gravy

Ice-cream Tub, Shortbread Biscuit & Orange Squash

Christmas Lunch must be booked via Sims Agora by Monday 2nd December and will cost £2.60

GRANDPARENTS' CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Grandparents' play an important role in our school community and the lives of our children. This year we are holding a 'Grandparents' Christmas Lunch' in recognition of the significant contribution they make throughout the year. The lunch will be held on **Wednesday 18th December at 12.30pm** during which our school choir will sing Christmas Carols. Please book early as spaces are limited. Bookings can be made through Sims Agora (under Events) from **Monday 18th November until Monday 2nd December** at a cost of **£8.00** per person.

The menu is a 4 course turkey dinner:

Starter - Fresh Seasonal Soup

Mains - Roast Turkey, Gammon, Cocktail Sausages, Stuffing & Gravy, Carrots, Brussel Sprouts, Roast & Creamed Potatoes.

Choice of desserts

(Strawberry Pavlova or Christmas Pudding & Custard)

Tea/Coffee

Note: Due to our Grandparents' Lunch this day, dinner for the children will be as follows:

Picnic in a Bag Lunch - Chicken Goujons with chips, Ice-lolly with Orange Squash





MORNING ENTRY SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES

For Child Protection reasons parents must drop their children at the school foyer in the morning and must not walk through the school building unattended. If you urgently need to speak to a teacher in the morning, please approach Mrs Campbell at the front office.

*If you have an appointment to meet with your child's teacher or wish to collect your child during school hours, you **must use** the Sign In / Sign Out System in place at the front office.



Meet Our Safeguarding Team



Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Mrs Cathy Allen



Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Mrs Louanne McElwee



Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Mr Paul Grant



Designated Governor for Child Protection

Mr Dave Pavey

SAFETY IN THE CARPARK

Please adhere to the following that our school community are safe and respected;

- * Enter the carpark slowly and carefully
- * Park your car sensibly in a car parking space
- * Take care when opening car doors
- * Do not block access to the school gates at pick-up times
- * Walk your children to the school entrance
- * Avoid parking in front of residents houses

Thank you for your support with making our school safe for everyone!



HEALTHY BREAKS

We operate a Healthy Break System in school. This was decided by our class and School Council. Healthy Breaks have a positive impact on our pupils' health as well as their concentration in class.

Therefore, we need all parents to support us and ensure that healthy breaks are in place **Monday - Thursday** (Friday is treat day!).

Healthy Breaks consist of bread and fruit snacks; drinks should be water or milk. Please remember pupils can purchase bread based snacks from our school canteen.



Procedure For Parents Who Wish To Raise a Child Protection Concern

If I have a concern about my/ a child's safety.

I can talk to the class teacher.

If I am still concerned, I can talk to:
The Designated Teacher for Child Protection:

Mrs Cathy Allen

The Deputy Designated Teachers for Child Protection:

Mrs Louanne McElwee and Mr Paul Grant

or the Safeguarding Governor:

Mr Dave Pavey

If I am still concerned, I can talk/ write to the
Chairperson of the Board of Governors:

Mr Alistair Kennedy

If I am still concerned, I can contact the NI Public
Services ombudsman
(Tel: 0800 343 424)

At any time, a parent can talk to a Social Worker at the local
Gateway Team (Tel: 02870325462), Out of hours (Tel:02895049999)
or the PSNI Public Protection
(Tel: 02890259299).