



Newsletter 18th December 2020



**School closes at 12 Noon on Tuesday
22nd December.**

School reopens on Monday 11th January.



Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 11th December our pupils and staff joined with schools across the UK people and wore some Christmas jumpers or other outfit. It was brilliant to see some homemade too. Donations made raised **£347.00** for Save the Children. What a fantastic amount of money. Thank you to everyone who joined us with this campaign. Photographs have been uploaded onto the school website and PTFA Facebook

Sustrans Journey to Santa

A huge thank you to all the KS1 children for taking part in our annual Sustrans 'Journey to Santa'. It was fantastic to see so many families committed to completing active journeys to and from school, despite the bad weather on many of the days. As a reward all children received a certificate and a chocolate treat for reaching the Santa's workshop. Well done everyone.

Nature Ninjas



**Goodbye. We will
miss you.**

We say Goodbye to Kaden Li and Sophie Le Prevost in Miss Walsh's class. We wish you a very Happy & Safe Christmas and lots of success in 2021.



Christmas Trees

Ollie and Emmie Millar are delighted to be photographed with the beautiful fresh pine tree donated by their parents. It has been brightening up the foyer for over two weeks.



We hope the community are as happy as the children and staff by the bright and homely lights shining out from the school buildings. The Community group kindly lent the school some of their Christmas lights that once adorned the famous streets of Blackpool and the village before being 'retired' by Derry City & Strabane District Council. We are most grateful to Jonny Martin, for creating the beautifully colourful tree at the gates, with the help of Graham Speak.



| | 7 th December | 14 th December |
|----------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| P1S | Adam Devine | Meera Catterson |
| P1H | Grace Williamson | Olly McCreanor |
| P2 | Evie Sheen | Aodhan McNamee |
| P3 | Tammy Gibson | Malachi Connolly-Gentles |
| P4 | Keelim Moore | Josh Mitchell |
| P5/6C | Robert Williamson | Kacey Millar |
| P5/6Mc G | Neve Crawford | Emily McClintock |
| P7 | Molly Hoynes | Tily-Mae Stewart |



Mathletics

Congratulations also goes to Oonagh McKay P5C and Coran Doherty P6McG who earned their **Gold** awards this week. Well done Oonagh and Coran.

Milk Money

Milk money for January will be £3.00. Please send in to your child's class teacher when school re-opens. A Reminder text will be sent

The Little Matchgirl

Last Wednesday Miss McGinley's class was transformed into a scene from Hans Christian Andersen's story of "The Little Match Girl". The children recreated this poignant story in a very tender way that made the story so meaningful. Let us all think of the homeless



Diversity Boxes

Primary 7s have taken delivery of Diversity Boxes from the Department for Rural Development. Each pupil has received a box of art and craft materials that help raise their awareness of cultural work from a selection of other countries. We are looking forward to seeing some colourful work in Term 2.



P1 and Nursery Applications

Dates for the opening of the online application system have not yet been made available for the September 2021 intake. Applications are made through an online system, available from the Education Authority website. Normally, we would be advertising an Open Afternoon, but these are prohibited by the Department of Education. A virtual tour of the school will be uploaded to the school website and PTFA Facebook page shortly. Everyone had a busy day on Wednesday when a past pupil, Jonny Collins spent the day videoing school activities.

What a WONDERFUL surprise!! Santa made a quick visit to our school today to drop in some selection boxes. He left some for everyone, even if they weren't here.



Thank you to our wonderful PTFA who kindly donated boxes of popcorn, a drink and some sweets for the children to enjoy, whilst having an in-school Cinema Day. Boxes were delivered from Eclipse Cinemas, Lifford.

Sincere thanks to all of you for working with us and helping the school to remain open from 24th August. It has been a very different experience for us all; and not all was negative. We look forward to a brighter 2021. It has been *the* most wonderful pleasure to have your children back in school. All of us appreciated each other in a way that only a period of separation can allow.

Happy Christmas from all the staff in Sion Mills P.S.