 **Good Shepherd News**

**December 2019**

[](https://preschoolinspirations.com/christmas-songs-for-kids/)

**It’s that time of year again… the excitement is building here in school. We’re putting the decorations up, rehearsing for our Christmas shows, looking forward to our Christmas outings, counting the sleeps until Santa comes and preparing ourselves to celebrate the birth of Baby Jesus.**

**At this time of year parents often like to buy presents for school staff. While we do appreciate very much your kind sentiments there really is no need to do so. What we would welcome however, is your continued generosity in supporting our days & events which require donations to various charities / school funds so that we can together as a School Community make a difference to those in need.**

**On behalf of the Board of Governors and our School Staff we would like to wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.**

**Happy Holidays Everyone!**

**See you all in January 2020!** ☺

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| **December 2019** | | | | | | |
| **Su** | **M** | **Tu** | **W** | **Th** | **F** | **S** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** |
| **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | **13** | **14** |
| **15** | **16** | **17** | **18** | **19** | **20** | **21** |
| **22** | **23** | **24** | **25** | **26** | **27** | **28** |
| **29** | **30** | **31** |  |  |  |  |

[](https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&ved=&url=https://www.printstar.co.uk/product/childrens-nativity-scene/&psig=AOvVaw0ZQgfcvF9TSw4aUr6EslgT&ust=1574929219003608)

**Mon 2nd:** Y7 girls attending St Cecilia’s Christmas Workshop

**Mon 2nd – Fri 6th:** Energy Saving Week

**Wed 4th:** Oakgrove college talk – Y7 pupils

**Wed 4th:** Christmas dinner

**Thurs 5th:** Nursery trip to visit Santa in Inishowen Gateway

**Fri 6th:** Cross Country Team – Oakgrove College

**Tues 10th:** Y1-Y4 Christmas show @ 1:30pm (**Audience: Y1 & Y2 Parents**)

**Tues 10th:** Foyle college talk – Y7 pupils

**Wed 11th:** Y1-Y4 Christmas show @ 1:30pm (**Audience: Y3** **& Y4 Parents)**

**Thurs 12th:** Election: school closed

**Fri 13th:** Save the Children’s Christmas Jumper Day **(please send in a donation)**

**Fri 13th:** Y7 girls attending St Mary’s Christmas Workshop

**Fri 13th:** School Soccer Team - Ryan Mc Bride’s PS Competition Campsie 10:00am-14:00pm

**Mon 16th:** Nursery Nativity @ 09:30am

**Mon 16th:** Y1 & Y2 Mrs Christmas visit

**Mon 16th:** Y3 & Y4 Pantomime @ 09:30am

**Mon 16th – Wed 18th:** Glendermott Parish Food Hamper Appeal

**Tues 17th:** Lumen Christi college talk – Y6 & Y7 pupils

**Fri 20th:** school closes at 12noon & re-opens on Monday 6th January 2020

Dates for your Diary

**Announcements!**



**We are still waiting on some parental consent forms to be returned before our website can go live. We will keep you posted!**

**A Fond Farewell!**

**We would like to wish Mrs Anne Hutcheson a very happy and healthy retirement. Anne has been a Supervisory Assistant in our school for many years and we would like to express our gratitude for her years of service to the children in our school.**

**Take Note:**

\*We are conscious that everyone is extremely busy in the lead up to Christmas and finding the time to squeeze homework in can prove difficult. To enable you as a family to have the time to engage in the spirit of Christmas, formal homework will not be given for the month of December. We would encourage you to take advantage of this time to read with / to your children and enjoy some additional quality time together.

\*Thank you to everyone who supported our FOGS Christmas Bonanza. A great night was had by everyone. A particular word of thanks to the members of the FOGS, school staff and to all our sponsors for all your support. A grand total of £2550.00 was raised. Congratulations and thanks everyone! The FOGS would like some feedback on how they can improve the Christmas Bonanza for next year, therefore all suggestions are welcome!

\***Attendance**: As you are aware you must inform school on the first morning of your child being absent from school. Attendance is monitored closely in school and discussed regularly with EWO. Punctuality is also noted. Please be aware that your child’s attendance is affected by arriving late to school. If you have not notified school of your child’s absence you will receive a text message. Please reply to this message stating the reason for your child’s absence. Once your child’s attendance goes below 90% we will monitor closely and you will be kept informed of their stage in the process before it reaches EWO level. Receiving an attendance update is not always a cause for concern it is part of the policy & procedures for managing attendance that we must adhere to.

\***Parentpay:** We are under extreme pressure due to budgetary constraints therefore all outstanding bills on Parentpay **MUST** be settled before school closes on 20th December 2019 in order for us to process payments to EA. Individual bills will be issued for all outstanding debts.