

# Newsletter

## Strandtown PS



December 2020

### CORE

**End of Term: Fri**

**18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020**

**(Normal Friday Time)**

**Return to School:**

**Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021**



**Dear Parents,**

It's almost impossible to think that Christmas is upon us, my 'desk frenzy' of the summer still feels all too recent. However, we find ourselves in our altered Christmas school days, with some comforting constants. The tree is up in school and the staff have become increasingly bedecked with festive accessories. Children are creating Christmas videos in their classes & we are looking ahead to our Christmas jumper day on Friday 11th December. Our Year 7's selected the charities that they would like this fundraiser to support. For this event we are supporting Tiny Life, Make a Wish and Cancer Fund for Children. Our longstanding tradition of social responsibility for our community at Christmas will continue. Our Year 4s are recording Christmas carols which will be shared with residential care homes in the area. The term has been an exceptional one but the pupils have led us from the front with positivity, resilience & optimism. Parents you should feel overwhelmingly proud of how your children have managed and excelled in school and they deserve the very best of a Christmas ahead. This year we appreciate the smaller blessings in life & in Strandtown there is so much to be thankful for: amazing pupils, the best of staff and wonderful parents.

*Warmest wishes for faith, hope and peace this Christmas season.*

*From our bubble to yours...Mrs Hutchinson*



**Christmas Jumper fundraiser: Friday 11th December**

**PTA Christmas Craft & Crazy Hair: Wednesday 16th December**

### NEWS UPDATES:

#### Instrumental Music Lessons

Many thanks to Ms Bailie who has acted as an interim music co-ordinator and organised the resumption of instrumental lessons. We are delighted that our Year 5- Year 7 pupils have been able to engage again in their music and ask parents for their continued patience as this rolls out.



#### Year 7 AQE/GL

For many of our Year 7 pupils, January will see their long awaited AQE/GL assessments upon them. They have worked exceptionally hard through the most challenging of times and deserve much rest over the Christmas break to equip them with much needed stamina for the long and demanding month of January.

#### Parent Focus Group



On Tuesday 10th November we were delighted to meet virtually with parents and discuss the current arrangements in school. It was noted how early some children are arriving at school. PLEASE ensure over these winter weeks that your child arrives to school at the correct time. The mornings are cold, wet and dark and it is not in the best interests of pupil wellbeing to have children unsupervised in the mornings for an extended time. We really appreciate parent input and will notify all parents of our next meeting.

#### PTA

The PTA would like to thank all the Strandtown family for their continuous support. This term we have provided funds towards online resources and the art supplies which benefit each and every child. The movie day was a great success raising £2,000. Events in December are our Christmas Hampers with new online raffle ticket service and festive wacky hair and craft day.

Our PTA meetings have made a successful move to Zoom, we would like to say thank you and welcome new members. Hopefully we will see you in January. R. Horgan (Chairperson)

