Braidside Integrated Primary and Nursery School
89 Frys Road, Ballymena Co. Antrim BT43 7EN
1989- 2019: 30 Years of Integration

028 25647899

Principal: J McAuley
www.braidside.co.uk
27/11/23

Dear Parents,

We are fast approaching December, the Christmas season and a variety of different school events. It's been a very busy few weeks in school.

Just recently we have completed work related to Road Safety, World Kindness Day and Anti-Bullying week. There have been visits from the Dogs' Trust, Johnny from Sustrans and last week Student Council and Mrs Young ran a very successful Bake Sale. This raised an incredible £975 which will be shared between all Key Stages. At the start of November, we also held the annual Book Fair and following sales of £1488, this enabled commission of £818 which was distributed among classes and the school library stock. We are very grateful for your support with all school events.

Braidside IPS presents:
"Everyone Loves a Baby"

This year we are delighted to present the FS and KS1 show, "Everyone Loves a Baby". This Christmas special, performed by P1-3, will take place in our school hall on: **Monday 18th December and Tuesday 19th December @ 10am.**

Tickets will be available from the School Office from Monday 4th December. Tickets will be £3 per person or 4 for £10.

Each year at Braidside we alternate between Key Stages to present an annual performance, due to the large number of children at the school. At present singing and practices are in full flow throughout the corridors and classrooms, no doubt parents and carers will be singing the tunes in no time too! Teachers and children are working extremely hard and we look forward to welcoming you to enjoy the show!

Overleaf you will find several key dates for events taking place in school over the coming weeks.

ROTARY CLUB CHRISTMAS HAMPER COLLECTION

Boxes are located at the main entrance for donations for the Rotary Club Christmas Hampers (letters sent out wk bg 20/11/23 with suggestions and info). All donations are used to prepare hampers for the old and less fortunate in our community. We are very grateful for your support.

The Board of Governors of Braidside Integrated Primary and Nursery School are keen to consult with parents and carers to obtain your views on Nursery provision at the school. At present we provide a half-day (morning) session for 26 placements. Over the last 6 years our Nursery has been oversubscribed and unfortunately this means we have been unable to allocate places to children and families who choose Braidside as their first preference. At this stage we are gathering information and gauging interest in a second Nursery session. To assist we would ask as many parents as possible to please contribute your views to the short survey which will be distributed this week. Responses can be left in until 22nd Dec. Thank you.

School Events in December:

Saturday 2nd December @ 1.30pm: Jingle All the Way event, (Choir at Ballymena Harmony Hub)

KS2 Cinema Trip: Friday 8th December

Christmas Party Box Lunch/ Christmas Jumper Day: Friday 15th December

Radio Cracker Performance: Friday 15th December @ 9:50am

Dress Rehearsal for Play (KS2 audience), Friday 15th Dec @ 10:30am

"Everyone Loves a Baby" Christmas Show: Mon 18th Dec and Tues 19th Dec @ 10am

Christmas Assembly: Thursday 21st Dec, @ 9:30am

FS/ KS1 Christmas Fun: Thursday 21st Dec

End of Term: Friday 22nd Dec 2023 (school will finish with a half-day)

Back to School: Monday 8th January 2024 @ 9am

NURSERY AND P1 OPEN EVENING

Nursery and P1 Open Evening will take place on Thursday 11th January 2024 for prospective parents and children for the academic year 2024/25.

The session for Nursery parents will take place @ 6:30pm and parents should book into the session, by telephoning the school office (25647899). A second session may be confirmed if numbers indicate this is required.

The session for P1 parents and children will commence at 7pm on 11th January.

Both sessions will commence with the Principal's Welcome in the School Hall.

We look forward to welcoming parents and families to the school.

For further information or queries, please contact the school office or email (info@braidsideintegratedps.ballymena.ni.sch.uk)

EA Connect will open for applications to pre-school and primary school for the school year beginning September 2024 to June 2025 on Tuesday 9th January 2024 @ 12noon. Parents can now access information on what you will need to make an application from the Parents Admissions Hub on eani.org.uk.

Admissions Helpdesk: 028 9598 5595 or email digital@eani.org.uk

Finally, each year at Braidside, staff have received very generous, thoughtful and kind gifts from the children and parents at Christmas time. Indeed, we have always been overwhelmed by the generosity shown. However, we are very aware of the continued financial difficulties facing many families and so this year we would ask again that you do not send in staff presents. If parents wish a donation/ contribution could be made instead to a local charity, in lieu of gifts e.g., Trussell Trust, Rotary Club Hamper appeal, St Vincent de Paul, Women's Aid, or Trocaire's Christmas Appeal to name a few. We remain very thankful and grateful for your support.

Yours faithfully,

____J McAuley_____

Principal

Please detach to return to school:

"Everyone Loves a Baby": FS and KS1 Christmas Show Reply slip.

Name: _____   Class: _____

Number of tickets required: _____

Please delete to indicate which session: Mon 18th Dec / Tues 19th Dec, 10am

Money enclosed: £_____

Signature: _____