

# LONGSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

September 2017 -December 2017

It is hard to believe we are coming to the end of the first term of 2017 - 2018 school year.

In September we had four new pupils start our school.

Two Primary 1's -

Rose Crawford and Mark Bovill.



Chloe Higgins in Primary 4



Joseph Lyness in Primary 6



They have all settled very well and are very happy here at Longstone.

We also had two new members of staff join us in September. Miss Alison Rodgers covering maternity leave for Mrs Donna Logan and Miss Zara Thompson covering Mrs Lauren Logan's maternity. Mrs Lauren Logan gave birth to a healthy baby boy on Friday 6 October (named Thomas).

## ***EXTENDED SCHOOLS***

Many thanks to all who returned the questionnaires regarding the Extended Schools Funding. We have been unable to get started with the programme as we are still waiting on paperwork, as soon as that is finalised we will be sending out more information - hopefully soon. You may still send in your questionnaire if you haven't already done so.

## ***EVENTS***

The pupils all enjoyed European Languages Day. They had fun sampling foods from different countries.

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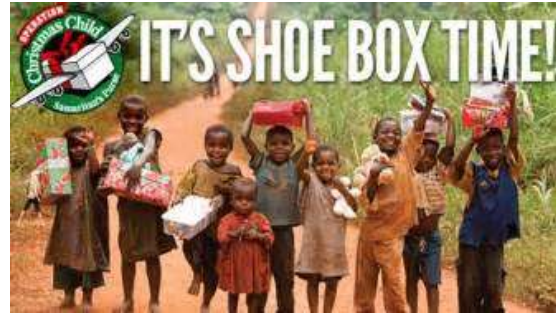
Thanks to Leonie's mum Grace McKay for coming to teach the children some German phrases also to our parents for their help in dressing the children in their European costumes.

This year for the first time we had a Harvest Assembly attended by parents and friends. Those who attended enjoyed a cup of tea and our children had juice and biscuits.



Thanks to the generosity of parents we were able to send items of groceries to the food bank in

Ahoghill and also fresh fruit to Trinity Presbyterian Church for distribution to the older people of the congregation.



## ***SHOE BOXES***

Once again this year we would like to support Operation Christmas Child by donating shoe boxes. If you can help could we please have the shoe boxes returned to school ***by Wednesday 8 November***. Last year 44,000 boxes left Northern Ireland to be distributed to children in some of the poorest countries of the world.

## ***BUSHFIRE MINISTRIES***

**Do you need a clear-out for Christmas?**

We have been asked if we could help Bushfire Ministries collect unwanted items of clothing to raise money for a school in Zambia. School will be sending out a black bin bag to every family of the school. Hope you can help with this very worthwhile cause.

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## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

The school photographer will be coming to school on Wednesday 15 November to take the Primary 1, Primary 7 and school group photographs. As we had individual photos taken last year we will only take photos/family groups if requested by parents. Information about this will be sent out nearer the date.

## **DANSKE BANK VISIT**

Staff from Danske will be in school to talk to pupils about Financial Capability.

## **JINGLE ALL THE WAY - BIG JINGLE PARADE**

The Northern Ireland Children's Hospice are holding a fund raising parade in Ballymena on Saturday 25 November at 2.00pm. There will be live music and street entertainment from 10.00am at the Bandstand, Broadway. The co-ordinator has been in touch with us to ask if we would like to enter a choir. Choirs will be singing in Montgomery's restaurant prior to the parade of novelty floats, trikes, cars and fun characters. We have been allocated a slot from 11.30 to 12.00noon. This would be a fun event for the

children and we would appreciate your help in bringing your children along. More information will be available later.



On Wednesday 29 November the Primary 5 - Primary 7 will be going to see the musical "Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat" at Dunclug College.

Our open-day for prospective pupils for September 2018 is on Friday 1 December. There will be two sessions 10.00 - 11.00am and 1.00pm - 2.00pm.





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This year our theme will be "knights and princesses".

Little Owls Christmas party will be on Wednesday 6 December from 2.00 - 3.00pm.



Parents, grandparents, child minders all welcome to come along.

On Friday 8 December we are having a family fun night in Ahoghill Community Centre.



This event is being held in place of our craft fair. More details will be sent out when arrangements have been finalised.



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The annual Christmas concert will be on Friday 15 December at 11.00am in Brookside Presbyterian Church Hall.



On Monday 18 December we will be singing on Radio Cracker (time to be confirmed). As is normal the children will be going to Burger King and then on to the panto in The Braid. After the Halloween holidays we will be asking parents for donations to help with the cost of these outings.

day. Children can bring a donation of £1.00. All money raised will be donated to "Save the Children Fund".

School will close for the Halloween holidays on Friday 27 October and re-open on Monday 6 November.

Over the holidays we will be getting some painting done in school. We're looking forward to seeing everything freshened up after Halloween.

School will close for the Christmas holidays on Wednesday 20 December at 12.00 noon and re-open on Thursday 4 January 2018.



Tuesday 19 December will be wear your Christmas Jumper to school