



CAVEHILL PRIMARY

October/November 2018

Our News

After a wonderful summer period with lovely weather for the most part, the autumn season has now once again arrived.

Next week we will be holding our school Harvest Services and we would like to thank you for your help with our Harvest collection. This year, the North Belfast Foodbank has requested that we ask for donations of 'SMASH' potatoes! Once again, your generosity is greatly appreciated and of great benefit to those who rely on the services of the North Belfast Food Bank.

School remains a vibrant and busy place with lots happening each week.

Our after school club programme has recommenced and we are starting to get into our after school routine! Thank you to Mr Bennett for ensuring that we can continue to offer a good range of activities and to the ladies in the office for their help with all the administration that accompanies this valuable provision.

School Trips and Events

P4 children recently enjoyed a visit from Aunt Sandra's Sweet Factory. They learnt about the history of Aunt Sandra's and were shown some of the processes that are involved in making sweets. The most popular part of the visit was when they got to make their own sweets and then eat them afterwards!

P5 will be shortly visiting the Ulster Museum which will include an Egyptian lesson for the children.

Mrs Kerr took the Into Film Club to a Cinemagic event. The children learnt about adding sound effects to a film and Cavehill children were wonderful ambassadors for the school at this event.

P6 will be having a visit from Habitat for Humanity which links with their class topic for this term. This is a great opportunity to learn about helping others in very practical terms.

Mr Bennett's class will be learning more about E-safety, courtesy of a Belfast City Council and Beam Creative Networks initiative for schools.

Our Shared Education programme will shortly be starting for selected classes.

The teachers involved in this will be linking curricular work into their planned lessons. We look forward to building on previous friendships formed last year with children and staff from St Therese of Lisieux.

School Council and Eco-Committee

Newly elected members to both groups have just been appointed. Mr Bennett will be supporting the School Council and Miss Cummings will be assisting the Eco-Committee. We look forward to hearing their ideas as the year progresses.

Farewell and Welcome

We said farewell to Mr Leitch, our Building Supervisor, in September and welcomed Mr McKeever as his temporary replacement.

We also welcomed Miss Browne to Cavehill as a job share teacher in P3 and in P4.

We are also delighted to inform you that Mrs Nicholl had a baby girl over the summer period and we look forward to her visiting with us in due course.

Diary Dates

- ☺ 10 Oct— Habitat for Humanity Workshop for P6
- ☺ 10 Oct—Football Team match
- ☺ 11 Oct—P1 Welcome Night (5.45-7.00pm)
- ☺ 15 Oct Football Team match
- ☺ 19 Oct—P5 trip to Ulster Museum
- ☺ 22-25 Oct—Parental Interviews
- ☺ 22 Oct—PTA Meeting (8pm)
- ☺ 26 Oct—Half-term parties
- ☺ 29 Oct—2 Nov—School CLOSED for Half-term
- ☺ 5 Nov—School opens as normal
- ☺ 12-16 — Nov Anti-Bullying Week
- ☺ 3Dec —P7 Girls to Girls' Model and P7 Boys to Boys' Model
- ☺ 4 Dec—Robinson Crusoe Panto in school (£3 per child)

What's happening at Cavehill?

Anti-Bullying Week

During Anti-Bullying week, commencing on 12th November, the pupils will once again be involved in The Kidscape Programme. This covers a variety of areas, such as bullying, saying no to strangers, feeling safe and internet safety. The pupils will participate in different activities to highlight potential dangers and appropriate responses.

Winter Weather

Please ensure that we have your current contact details in order that we can keep our computer records up-to-date. We will use this information to text parents should there be any difficulty or change to the normal school arrangements due to bad weather.

Parental Survey 2018

Thank you to all those who completed our recent survey. This is helpful in identifying areas where we can provide greater focus and clarity for our parents. The results demonstrated very high levels of parental satisfaction across all the areas covered by the survey.

Parental Interviews

Please note that parental interviews will be taking place from 22-25 Oct. All children will finish at 12.50pm on these dates after a slightly earlier lunch.

Board of Governors

This term will see the change of governor membership, as all schools will be reconstituting their Board of Governors in line with the Department of Education's requirements.

It is important to acknowledge the dedicated and committed work of our governors who give of their time voluntarily to assist the school. In particular, we want to thank Mr Barton Hunter (current Chair) who is retiring after being a member of Cavehill Primary Board of Governors for well over 20 years.

His contribution to the leading of the school throughout this time has been greatly appreciated and highly valued.

Also retiring after many years of dedicated service is Mr Taylor who has been a teacher representative for approximately eight years and Mrs Warnock who has been a parent representative for the last four years.

We look forward to welcoming Miss Cummings (teacher representative) along with Meghan Hoyt and Caroline O'Kane (parent representatives) to our board in due course.

We are indebted to our governors for all that they do to ensure that Cavehill remains a school committed to achieving high standards of care and education for all our pupils.

P1 Welcome Night

We are looking forward to our P1 Welcome Night which is organised by our PTA.

This is always a lovely event designed to help P1 parents to meet with other P1 parents and encourage a sense of community and belonging in Cavehill Primary.

The P1 pupils also get to enjoy a puppet show while parents get an opportunity to have a chat and establish new friendships.

PTA

Our next PTA meeting will be held in the school on 22nd October at 8pm. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. We had a fantastic turn out at our last meeting and were very encouraged and excited about what can be achieved this year.

We are looking for new ideas and would appreciate additional helpers to enable us to keep our programme running throughout this school year.

