



CAVEHILL PRIMARY

January / February 2019

Our News

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year holiday.

We had a busy autumn term that culminated in various Christmas events which were a pleasure to attend. Our P1-3 Nativities and the P4-7 Carol Service were wonderful occasions when the children once again rose to the occasion and helped us celebrate the Christmas season.

Our Christmas charity collections raised £2274 and enabled us to support the work of the NI Air Ambulance Service, the NI Hospice, ADD-NI and school funds. Thank you all for your generosity.

Our PTA Christmas Movie Night and associated activities were enjoyed and appreciated by all. Thank you to all involved for making this such a special time for the children at school.

Additional Needs Information

Following our Parent Survey, we gleaned that a number of parents did not feel informed about the provision that we make in school for those with additional needs. Firstly, all our pupils are equally important and valued, each person is unique and has

their own strengths and areas of difficulty.

For those who find literacy a challenge, Ms McMullen provides daily small-group withdrawal support. This rotates around year-groups as the year progresses to ensure that as many pupils as possible benefit from her teaching expertise.

Extra support in literacy is provided by a Harberton Learning Support teacher, twice weekly. The peripatetic service provides additional support for some pupils with dyslexia and Miss Cummings also provides dyslexia support sessions each week. Mrs Fisher provides after school support to pupils in P1-2.

The Better Reading Partnership operates with a number of trained and accredited classroom assistants under the supportive co-ordination of Miss Christine Henderson. This ten-week programme builds confidence and enjoyment when reading for those who attend.

Time to Read is another initiative which has been running for many years in Cavehill. This is an opportunity for pupils to read with volunteers from the world of business.

In regards to numeracy,

Miss Grey works with a number of pupils in a small group setting on a Friday. This provision is supplemented by Mrs Gillian McCalmont who works with a small group of pupils after school.

Some of our pupils do not have specific academic needs but their needs relate to pastoral issues. We cater for those through our Jigsaw Counselling service and other opportunities as they arise (this term we have an opportunity to access some support from ADD-NI and New Life Counselling).

Our pupils can also benefit from specialist assistance from Clarawood, the Behaviour Support Team, Harberton Outreach service and the Autism Assessment and Intervention Service via assessment by an Educational Psychologist.

All staff have recently attended training on Autism and will also be receiving training on ADHD later this term.

There are many other strategies that we employ in school on a daily basis to support and cater for the learning and pastoral needs of all our pupils and we remain committed to doing all that we can to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to thrive at Cavehill Primary School.

Diary Dates

- ☺ 11 Jan—Open Morning 9.15 -10.30am
- ☺ 31 Jan—P1 Applications 2019 Closing Date (at midnight)
- ☺ 4 Feb—After school clubs cycle 1 ends this week
- ☺ 18 and 19 Feb —School closed for Half-term
- ☺ 20 Feb—School closed for staff training
- ☺ 25 Feb—After school clubs cycle 2 begins
- ☺ 18 Mar— School Closed for holiday
- ☺ 20 Mar—School closed for staff training
- ☺ 16 Apr —Last day of term. School will close at 12noon and there will be no lunches on this date. Breakfast Club will operate as normal.
- ☺ 17 - 26 April—School closed for Easter Holidays
- ☺ 29 April—School starts back at normal time. Breakfast Club will operate as usual on this date

Winter Planning

We have plans in place should we encounter any serious adverse weather. It is most important that we have current contact information for our pupils.

Please inform the school office immediately should your contact details change so that we can amend our records accordingly. We will use the school text service and website to pass on information at short notice if necessary.

As we have a large site to cover, it is essential that only the pathways that have been salted are used to avoid accidents occurring.

