

# December Newsletter, 2023

Dates & Times for your Diary!!

**Christmas Dinner:**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December.**

**Christmas Jumper and Mad Hat Day**  
For our Daily Mile with Santa!

Normal home times this year.  
For those who pay, dinner costs £2:60.

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**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

**Open Morning - Call in anytime from**  
**9:30am - 11:00am**

**For anyone who has a child going to P1**  
**September 2024.**

Our school website is also an excellent representation of life at St Patrick's  
Anyone wishing to see around the school can ring in and make an appointment to be shown around or come along to our

**Santa Evening and Christmas Fayre**  
**Evening...**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December**  
**6:30pm - 8:00pm**

*Relaxed hour from 5 - 6pm*  
*For children with sensory needs.*  
*See flyer at end of newsletter.*

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**P1 - P3 Pantomime - Aladdin**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

**P4 - P7**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

Buses will leave at 9:20am both mornings and children will have dinner when they return.

Break will be provided.

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**Snowdrop & Daffodil Classes**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

**'Sophie - The BIG Sensory Bus'**

9:45am - 12:15pm

Guess who is driving the BIG Bus??

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**Carol Service**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

**7:00pm**

**St Patrick's Church, Clonoe.**

All family & friends of St. Patrick's PS are invited to attend our Carol Service. Please note that assigned seating will be made for pupils and staff only at the front of the Chapel.

All family & friends are asked to please occupy the seats behind the pupils on all aisles and to leave their child/ren with the staff when they arrive until the end of the service.

The children will be sitting in their class groups and MUST be in the Chapel for 6:45pm at the latest.

Please Note:

Any videos or photographs taken during the Carol Service must be for personal archives only and are not to be posted on line or shared digitally in any form.

Parents have given the school only permission to take photographs/videos for papers and school web site and this year also, on the Friends of Annaghmore Facebook Page.

Please stay back behind class seats if you are taking pictures.

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**P1 Nativity Performance.**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**At 10:00am.**

**For all family and friends in the school Hall.**

**Santa's Electronic Gifts.**

Every year Santa brings to many lucky children gifts of i-Phones, i-Pads, tablets, X-Box to name but a few....

Very often he forgets to leave a note for parents on the importance of putting on Parental Controls that will safeguard their child from harmful communications of others they would not choose their children to be friends with.

On Santa's behalf, can I respectfully ask all parents to protect their child by putting these simple safeguards in place and then keeping a guiding and protective eye on all their children's activities thereafter.

Together, we can make a big difference in protecting our children this year. No devices are to be brought into school at any time.

*On behalf of the Governors, staff and pupils of St Patrick's PS, I would like to wish you all a happy, holy and peaceful Christmas with your families and friends.*

*May 2024 be a year full of every blessing you need.*

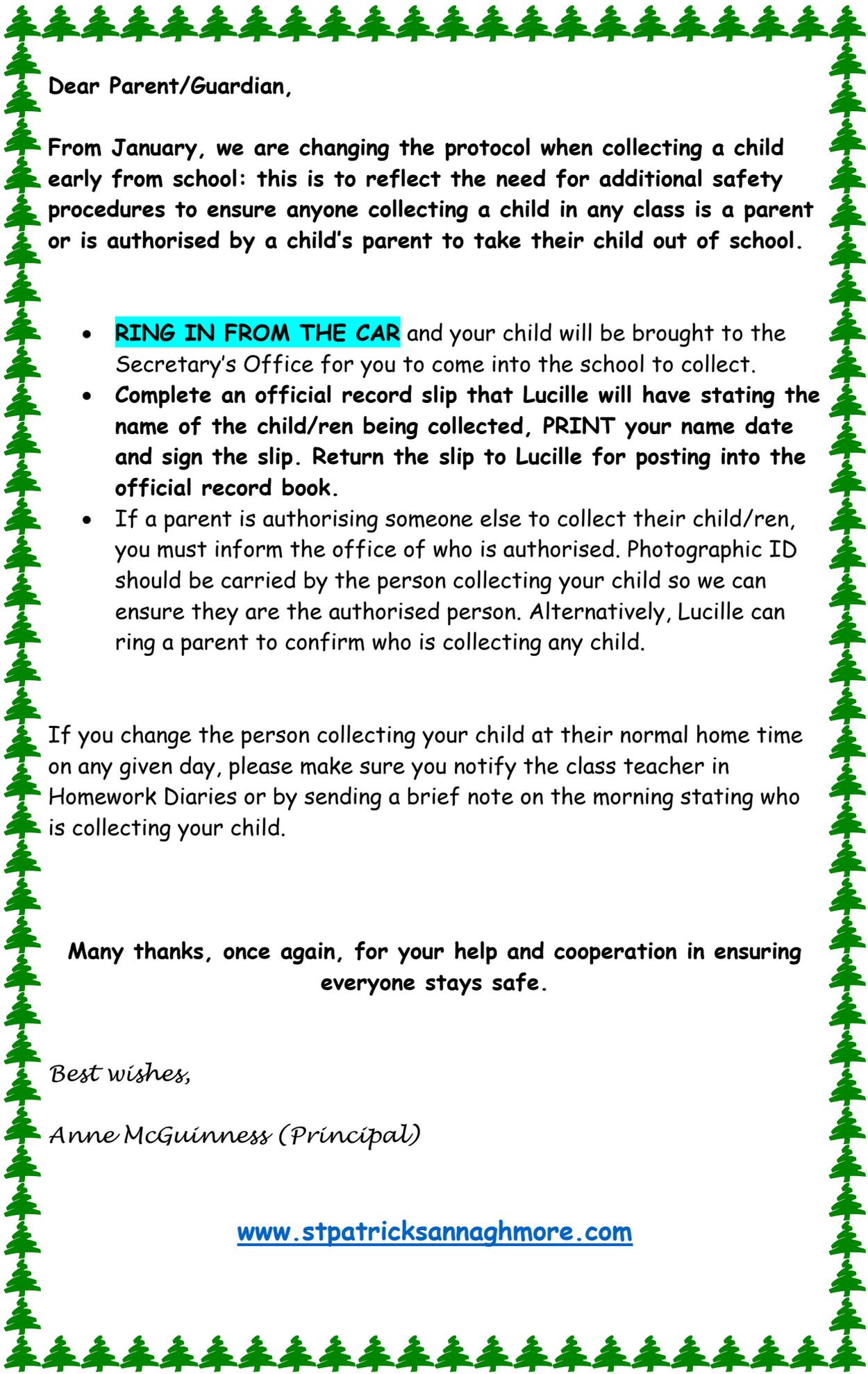
*From*

*Governors, Principal and Staff of St Patrick's PS.*



***Nollaig Shona Duit!!***

**School re-opens Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
for Term 2.**



Dear Parent/Guardian,

From January, we are changing the protocol when collecting a child early from school: this is to reflect the need for additional safety procedures to ensure anyone collecting a child in any class is a parent or is authorised by a child's parent to take their child out of school.

- **RING IN FROM THE CAR** and your child will be brought to the Secretary's Office for you to come into the school to collect.
- Complete an official record slip that Lucille will have stating the name of the child/ren being collected, PRINT your name date and sign the slip. Return the slip to Lucille for posting into the official record book.
- If a parent is authorising someone else to collect their child/ren, you must inform the office of who is authorised. Photographic ID should be carried by the person collecting your child so we can ensure they are the authorised person. Alternatively, Lucille can ring a parent to confirm who is collecting any child.

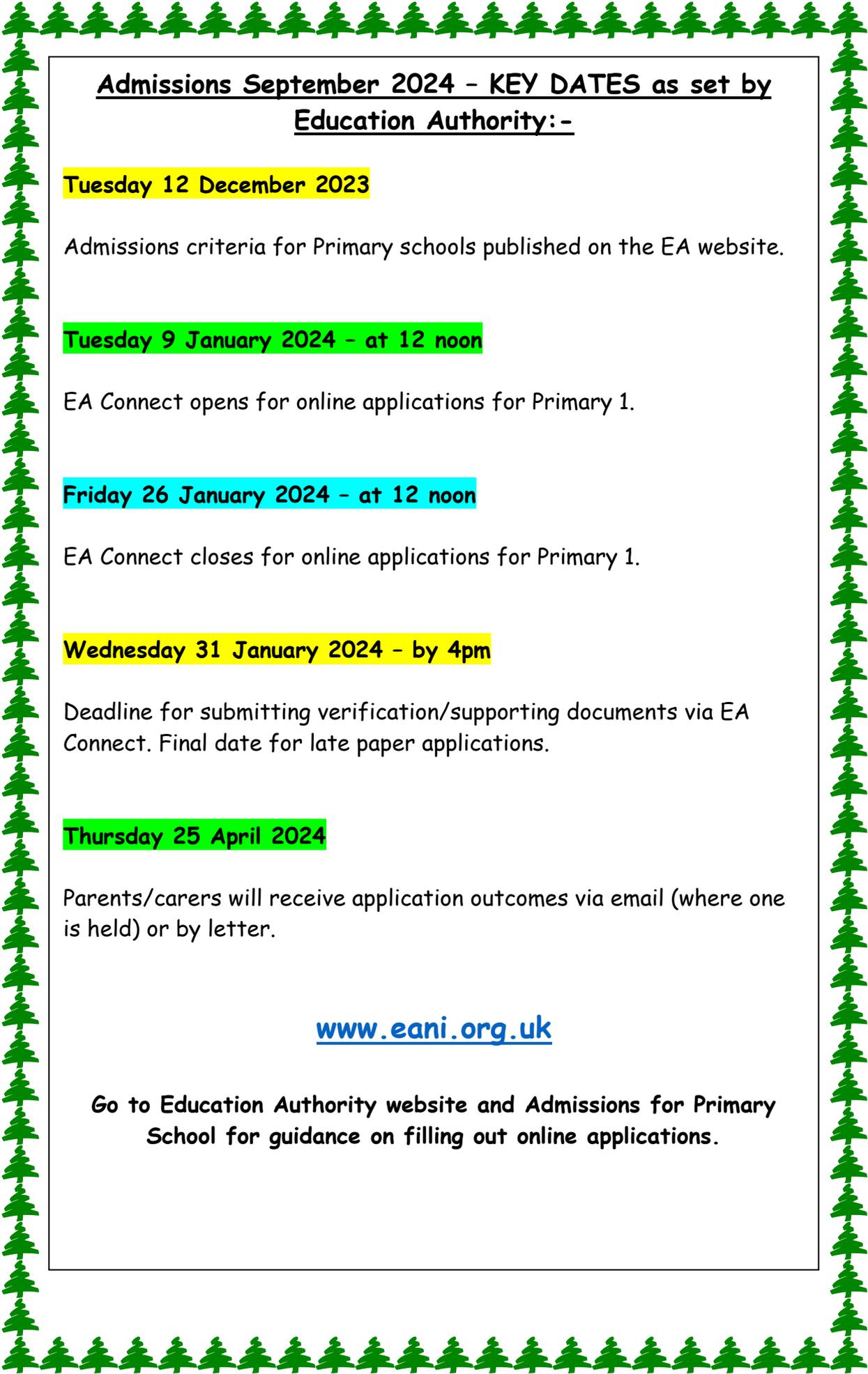
If you change the person collecting your child at their normal home time on any given day, please make sure you notify the class teacher in Homework Diaries or by sending a brief note on the morning stating who is collecting your child.

Many thanks, once again, for your help and cooperation in ensuring everyone stays safe.

*Best wishes,*

*Anne McGuinness (Principal)*

[www.stpatricksannaghmore.com](http://www.stpatricksannaghmore.com)



**Admissions September 2024 - KEY DATES as set by  
Education Authority:-**

**Tuesday 12 December 2023**

Admissions criteria for Primary schools published on the EA website.

**Tuesday 9 January 2024 - at 12 noon**

EA Connect opens for online applications for Primary 1.

**Friday 26 January 2024 - at 12 noon**

EA Connect closes for online applications for Primary 1.

**Wednesday 31 January 2024 - by 4pm**

Deadline for submitting verification/supporting documents via EA Connect. Final date for late paper applications.

**Thursday 25 April 2024**

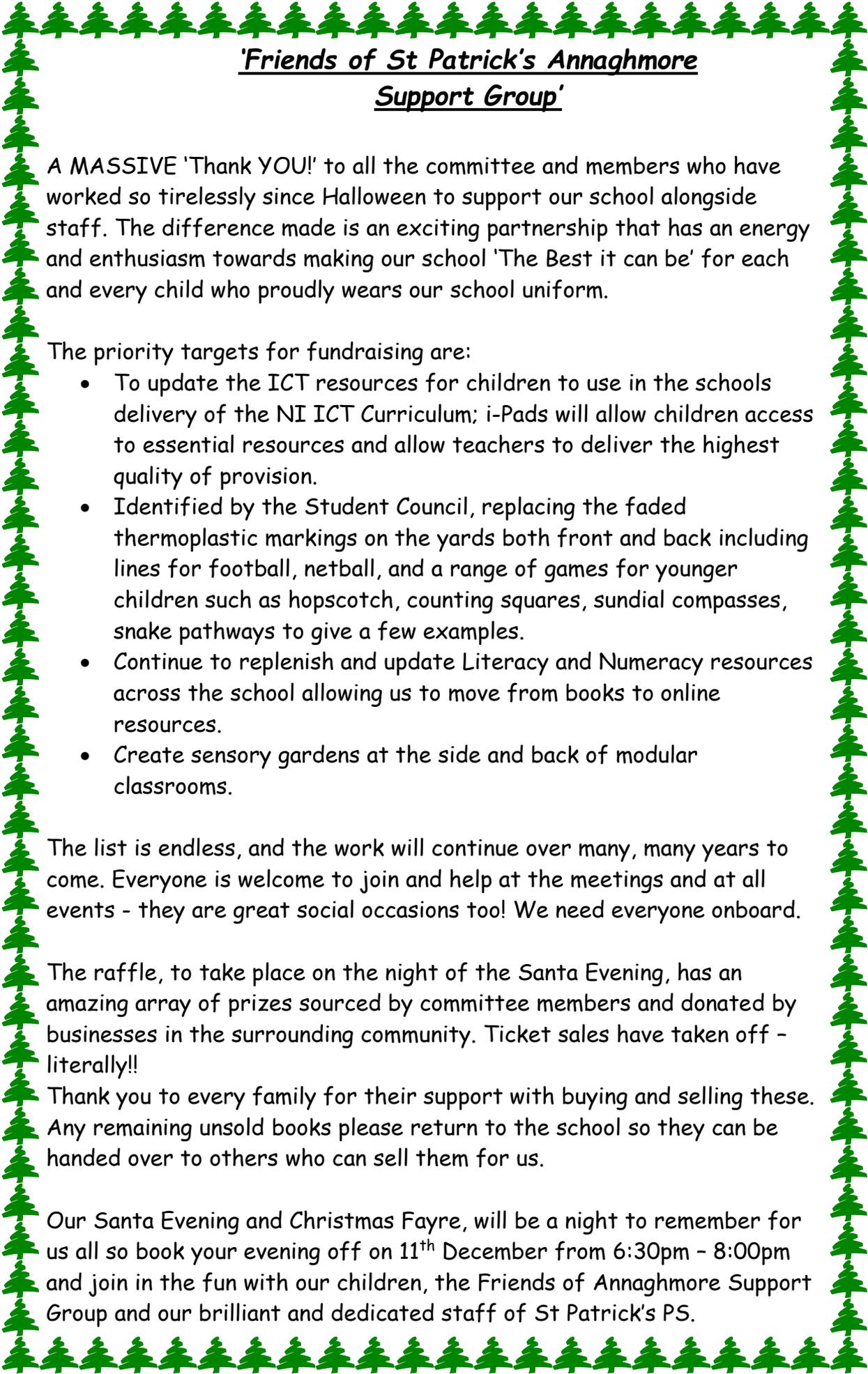
Parents/carers will receive application outcomes via email (where one is held) or by letter.

**[www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk)**

**Go to Education Authority website and Admissions for Primary School for guidance on filling out online applications.**



*2023 Whole School Daily Mile with Santa!!*



'Friends of St Patrick's Annaghmore  
Support Group'

A MASSIVE 'Thank YOU!' to all the committee and members who have worked so tirelessly since Halloween to support our school alongside staff. The difference made is an exciting partnership that has an energy and enthusiasm towards making our school 'The Best it can be' for each and every child who proudly wears our school uniform.

The priority targets for fundraising are:

- To update the ICT resources for children to use in the schools delivery of the NI ICT Curriculum; i-Pads will allow children access to essential resources and allow teachers to deliver the highest quality of provision.
- Identified by the Student Council, replacing the faded thermoplastic markings on the yards both front and back including lines for football, netball, and a range of games for younger children such as hopscotch, counting squares, sundial compasses, snake pathways to give a few examples.
- Continue to replenish and update Literacy and Numeracy resources across the school allowing us to move from books to online resources.
- Create sensory gardens at the side and back of modular classrooms.

The list is endless, and the work will continue over many, many years to come. Everyone is welcome to join and help at the meetings and at all events - they are great social occasions too! We need everyone onboard.

The raffle, to take place on the night of the Santa Evening, has an amazing array of prizes sourced by committee members and donated by businesses in the surrounding community. Ticket sales have taken off - literally!!

Thank you to every family for their support with buying and selling these. Any remaining unsold books please return to the school so they can be handed over to others who can sell them for us.

Our Santa Evening and Christmas Fayre, will be a night to remember for us all so book your evening off on 11<sup>th</sup> December from 6:30pm - 8:00pm and join in the fun with our children, the Friends of Annaghmore Support Group and our brilliant and dedicated staff of St Patrick's PS.