

## Stormont House School

Our school vision: Achievement for all in a unique world class school

### Extended School Activities

#### What is an 'extended school'?

The DFE define an extended school as '*One that provides a range of services and activities often beyond the school day to help meet the needs of its pupils, their families and the wider community*'. At Stormont House School we have an Extended School Co-ordinator, Tracy Napier, who arranges clubs and after school activities for pupils and organises coffee mornings, workshops and training sessions for parents and carers.

These are just some of the sessions planned for the Spring term of which parent/carers will be invited to attend.

#### **Tuesday 25 January:      Healthy Eating**

A meeting to discuss the importance of healthy eating and eating together as a family with the opportunity to ask questions or raise concerns that you have regarding your child's eating habits.

#### **Tuesday 8 February: Managing Behaviour at home**

How to deal with challenging and difficult behaviour at home, advice, hints and tips! Information about activities outside school, for example youth clubs and sports clubs will also be available.

We will also be running coffee mornings where parent/carers will have the opportunity to meet other parents and carers over a cup of tea or coffee and cake! Planned dates are as follows; put these dates in your diary now!

**Tuesday 8 March**

**Tuesday 5 April**

**Tuesday 24 May**

**Tuesday 28 June**

All coffee mornings run from 9.30 – 11am



#### **Bravo Bravo Bravo!**

Ms Mpisaunga would like to thank all of year 8 for doing their best in the performance of the story of A Christmas Carol on the night of the Christmas Bazaar. Despite the pressure of learning lines and wearing old fashioned outfits, they all did a fantastic job performing in front of an audience of parents, carers, other family members and staff. **Well done year 8!**

Year 8 are continuing the Victorian theme by reading a play based on the life of a street child in Victorian times and writing a newspaper. Look out for this at half term!

#### **Christmas Bazaar**

Thank you for all of your items you donated for the Christmas Bazaar last term. We took £345.55 after we deduct expenses all profit will go towards supporting school residential journeys.



## Free School Meals – We can help Make sure you claim!

If you receive one the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and your income is £16,190 or less (this figure changes each April).
- Working Tax Credit for four weeks after your employment finishes
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Support from the National Asylum Support Service (NASS)

You can claim free school meals for your child/children. Please speak to Monica (Receptionist) who will be able to provide an application form and help you to complete it. Alternatively you can download a form from [www.learningtrust.co.uk](http://www.learningtrust.co.uk) or pick one up from The Learning Trust offices at 1 Reading Lane, E8 1GQ.

### How much money could I save?

**If your child is entitled to free school meals, you could save on average £10 per week or £390 per year.**

## Sports News



The National Indoor Rowing Competition is taking place at Lea Valley Athletics Centre on March 4. Our very successful rowing team will be competing. We would welcome the support of parents and / or carers at this event.

### Lost property

We still have a lot of items in lost property. If your child has lost any items please remind them to check in lost property at reception.

## Breaking News

### Exams

Currently pupils in years 10 and 11 are taking their Science GCSE module exams and mock GCSE's in Art

### Assembly

Assembly is held on Tuesday mornings between 10.10 and 10.35am. Each year group presents an assembly once a term which their parents/carers are invited to attend. We also occasionally have musical or dancing groups performing during assemblies. Next week 18 January, we have an assembly on South African singing skills.

### After School Clubs

Spaces are still available in the following after school clubs:

Wednesday: Football club  
Art GCSE Club (Y10 & 11 only)

Thursday: Indoor rowing

Friday: Film club

Pupils should see Mrs Napier if they would like to attend. A Permission slip must be completed by a parent/carers.

## School life

This week we are focussing on School Governors.

### Governors

The school governing body is made up of Community and LEA appointed Governors, and elected parent / carer and staff governors. In total there are 12 governors and three observers. Governors come from all different backgrounds and play an important role in supporting the school and making decisions regarding the service provided for pupils. Their responsibilities include:

- Establishing the aims and policies of the school
- Identifying how standards of education can be improved
- The school development plan
- Setting and monitoring the school budget
- Appointing the Headteacher
- Improving links with the local community

We are very fortunate to have dedicated governors who are very supportive of the school and our vision:

**Achievement for all in a unique, world-class school**

## Term Dates

**The Spring term is Tuesday 04 January 2011 – Thursday 07 April 2011 with the following closures:**

Friday 28 January 2011 – school closes at 1.15pm for staff training

Friday 18 February 2011 – school closed for staff training

Half term: Monday 21 February – Friday 25 February 2011