



# Our Lady's Girls' Primary School

Deanby Gardens  
Belfast  
BT14 6NN  
Tel: (028) 9074 6325

**Principal: Mrs E Hughes**

7 January 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We would like to welcome all of our pupils back to school and hope you had a relaxing Christmas break and peaceful New Year. We are resolute in continuing to improve our educational and social provision for our girls and further develop our communication with families.

**WEBSITE:** We would like to remind parents that our school website is fully functional and is full of useful information regarding our school, including holiday and diary dates and a section entitled 'School Letters' in the **Parents' Area** where we will post letters that have been distributed to the whole school, in case you mislay information at home. There are also plenty of photos of our classes taking part in activities, so as you can keep up to date with what is going on in school. If you have not already done so, please take time to visit the website and familiarise yourself with its content. We also have our **Twitter** and **Facebook** media pages for you to enjoy!

**PTA:** The PTA have had an active first term and have lots more events planned to keep us all entertained and busy until June. The year started with a beautiful Coffee Morning, in aid of Marie Curie and, without a doubt, the highlight so far was the Hallowe'en Disco. Money raised from these events has gone towards paying for buses for class trips, the new website, the text service, the banners for P1 Open Day, reading books, beanbags, prizes for the Christmas art competition and a Movie Morning for girls who reached their AR reading targets. If you would like to find out more about our plans for the next term and how money is spent, please come along to our next meeting, date to be confirmed. We would love to see some new faces.

Our first event of 2020 will be a **Family Bingo Night on Thursday 23rd January** -so pop that date in your diary!

**WHOLE SCHOOL NURTURING:** In Our Lady's we actively encourage our pupils (and our staff) to share any concerns or worries they may have. Our classrooms offer a safe base for our girls. All of our staff have now completed Level 3 INSET training in Whole School Nurturing Approaches. The Whole School Nurturing Approach underpins the very foundation of our social environments and its significant influence on social, emotional and behavioural development. Through implementing this programme throughout our school, we provide pupils with learning experiences to develop social, emotional and behavioural skills and encourage success at school and with peers. It helps to develop their resilience and enables them to respond more confidently to the challenges presented to them today. We see emotional well-being as being central to the development and mental health needs of our pupils.

**REMINDERS:** School begins for our pupils **every morning at 8.50am**. Please make sure your child is on time for school, with everything that they need for the school day. Please feel free to contact the school office should you need to speak to a class teacher or to myself. We will be happy to accommodate you.

Yours sincerely,

*Emer Hughes*