



ST. BERNARD'S NEWSLETTER

February 2026



Message from Mrs Maguire:

I hope you all enjoyed a lovely mid-term break and had the chance to rest, recharge, and spend some quality time together. As we return for this new half-term, we look forward to brighter evenings, the hint of spring in the air, and hopefully some improved weather ahead.

We began February with a beautiful celebration of St Brigid's Day, led by Miss Harding's Primary 5 class. The children shared prayers, reflections, and traditions associated with St Brigid, reminding us of the values of kindness, hope, and new beginnings.

We were also treated to a wonderful assembly from Mrs McGuigan's Primary 2 class in honour of National Polar Bear Day. The children helped us reflect on the importance of protecting our polar bears and caring for our planet. Their message about how small everyday choices can make a big difference was both meaningful and inspiring.

It has been an exceptionally busy and successful month in sport. Our boys' football team have represented the school with great skill and enthusiasm, achieving fantastic results along the way. Our cross-country runners also made their mark, showing determination and teamwork throughout their events. In addition, Gaelic activities are well underway, with our boys and girls proudly representing the school in both camogie and football tournaments.

As always, we are so proud of the efforts, talents, and positive spirit shown by all of our pupils. Thank you for your continued support as we move through this term together.



Information For Parents:



Dates for your diaries:

Thursday 5th March

World Book Day



Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th March

Staff Development Day and St. Patrick's Day
- School Closed



Friday March 20th

Fostering Coffee Morning - Please find more information in this newsletter.



Thursday 2nd April

Easter Break. School closes for all pupils at 12 Noon.

SACRAMENT DATES:

First Confession:

Friday 13th March

@12.30pm



First Holy

Communion:

Friday 8th May

@11am



WHAT'S GOING ON...



The girls' Gaelic team travelled to Whiterock Leisure Centre on Wednesday 25th February to compete in the Cumann na mBunscol Championship. The girls played three tough games against St. Kevin's, Holy Child and St. Theresa's. The girls played their hearts out, coming away with one win out of three. Unfortunately, that isn't enough to qualify for the semi-finals but the girls should be proud of the hard work and dedication they have shown across the whole school year. Well done girls!

GIRLS GAELIC

On Wednesday 4th February, the girls' gaelic team travelled to Colin Glen to play in the Cumann na mBunscol Indoor Gaelic Championships. The girls contested 3 very close games against St. Oliver Plunkett, St. Kieran's and Ballymacward PS, coming away with one victory out of three. Unfortunately, we did not qualify for the finals but the girls all represented their school fantastically well and should be tremendously proud of their efforts. Well done girls!



DREAMSPACE AMBASSADORS LEAD SAFER INTERNET WEEK ASSEMBLY



Our DreamSpace Ambassadors delivered an excellent assembly this week as part of Safer Internet Week. Focusing on staying safe online and the responsible use of AI, the pupils led an engaging and interactive session for the whole school.

They explored important topics such as protecting personal information, recognising trustworthy content, and using AI tools safely and responsibly. Their presentation was informative, fun and full of practical advice that everyone can use in their daily digital lives.

Well done to our DreamSpace Ambassadors for their hard work, confidence and leadership!

WHAT'S GOING ON...

P4 VISIT TO CREGAGH LIBRARY



Our P4 pupils enjoyed an exciting trip to Cregagh Library this week. They explored the children's section, discovered new books, and learned how the library can help support their reading. The staff were incredibly welcoming, and the children loved choosing stories to bring back to school. A great morning of reading fun!

P7 NETBALL



Our netball team travelled to UUB Belfast on Thursday 5th February to take part in a fantastic blitz with four other schools. The girls played brilliantly throughout the day. They had to adjust to a much larger court than they are used to, but once they settled in, we saw some truly beautiful netball being played. They did a brilliant job representing our school.

P6P TACKLE PERSPECTIVE ART



P6P budding artists have been busy traveling back to 1912! The children explored the challenging world of one-point perspective to bring the majestic Titanic to life on paper.

Beyond just drawing lines, P6P became masters of mood and atmosphere. Using a mix of watercolours and oil pastels, they blended deep, stormy blues and frothy whites to capture the power of the North Atlantic. I am so proud of the focus and creativity they showed in every brushstroke, and they also had a lot of fun along the way.



WHAT'S GOING ON...

P4 REACH PROGRAMME



Primary 4 completed the REACH resilience programme. They explored their emotions and discovered practical ways to manage these.

BOYS GEALIC



The boys Gaelic team qualified for the Cumman na Bunscoil indoor finals at Colin Glen. In the first game we played against a strong Bunscoil team. We got off to a slow start but improved a lot after half time. We left ourselves too much to do and were beaten by a few points. In our second game we played against St. Paul's and played much better winning the game for 4-7 to 0-2. In our final game we played against St. John the Baptist and played some really good football, winning the game on a scoreline of 5-2 to 0-4. We had a brilliant time and really enjoyed making it along to the finals.

P5 TRIP TO THE MUSEUM



Primary 5 enjoyed a fantastic and educational day out at the Ulster Museum in Belfast. The children took part in an exciting Discover Nature workshop, where they explored the wonders of the natural world through hands-on activities. They also visited the Ancient Egyptian Learning Zone, examining real artefacts and learning about the different roles and jobs in ancient Egyptian society.

After a well-earned lunch break, the pupils had time to explore the museum's galleries, discovering everything from dinosaurs to local history. It was a thoroughly enjoyable day, filled with curiosity, learning and lots of memorable moments!



P7 Confirmation



On Friday, 27th February, our Primary 7 pupils celebrated their Confirmation in St. Bernadette's Church. It was a special and meaningful occasion for everyone involved. We extend our thanks to Fr. Hickland, Fr. Bharanikulangaraour, and Fr. Flemming, as well as the dedicated teachers and classroom assistants who supported the children so well in their preparation. A big thank you to parents and school staff who supported setting up and supplying the food for the Parish Hall. A huge congratulations to all our Primary 7 boys and girls on this important milestone.

P7G



P7M

Information for Parents



Coffee Morning



We are delighted to be hosting our second Fostering Information and Coffee Morning in partnership with Belfast Trust.

There is a growing need for foster carers in our area. If you have ever considered becoming a foster carer, or simply want to understand the process better, please join us.

FRIDAY 20TH MARCH AT 9:30 - 10:30AM

If you are interested in attending, please click the link below to sign up:

[Fostering Information and Coffee Morning - Fill in form](#)





WORLD BOOK DAY®

Put on your favorite book character costume or wear your Book Day T-shirt to school on Thursday 5th March.



Safeguarding

13+ Facebook Instagram TikTok YouNow House Party	16+ Snapchat Twitter Kik Yubo Monkey	17+ WhatsApp Sarahah YOLO	18+ MeetMe LiveMe
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"Can I get a phone?"

"What age can I get a phone?" "My friend has a phone, please can I get one?"

Sound familiar??

Maybe you are thinking of getting your child a phone or have recently got one? At Parentline NI we have put together a useful bumper pack full of helpful information and activities to do together with your child to prepare them for using a phone.

Packed full of useful links, support and guidance as well as helpful Q&A's to use with your child!

For your FREE pack
Call us now on 0808 8020 400

Reminder to All Parents and Carers

The School App and the school website are the primary methods of communication from the school. It is the responsibility of all parents and guardians to ensure that:

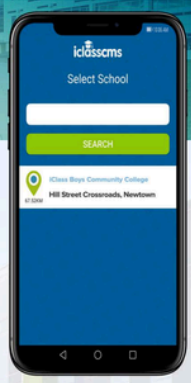
- The School App is downloaded onto your device
- Notifications are turned on, so you receive important updates in real time
- You check the school website regularly for key information
- Ensure you have selected the correct year group for your child/children

Please see flyer on how to download the app. Please note that teachers may also use Seesaw and/or Google Classroom for class-specific updates, learning reminders, and messages relevant to your child's class. Thank you for helping us keep communication clear and consistent.



MOBILE APP

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOWNLOAD



01 Go to **App Store** and Search for "iClasscms"

02 Install the App

05 Add Details

03 Select School (It will prompt your nearest school, if not simply type school name into search box)

04 Click "Register"

06 Add Student

07 **DONE!** Stay up to date with latest news, events and school messages