

Newsletter

January 2026

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@Holytrinity20



holytrinityprimary

Dates to remember:

- Wednesday 11th February – Friday 13 February: School closed, Mid-term break.
- Monday 16th February: School reopens after mid-term break.
- Friday 13th – Friday 20th March: Book Fair in school.
- Sunday 3rd May 2026: Confirmation in St Michael’s Church, Enniskillen.
- Saturday 30th May 2026: Holy Communion in St Michael’s Church, Enniskillen.

Please note:

- School Dinners: The EA has increased the price of a Primary school dinner to **£3.10**, Nursery/Preschool to **£3.00**, effective from the January 6th.
- **Online applications for a Pre-School or Primary 1 place for September 2026 are now open via EA Connect.** Applications close at 12 noon on Wednesday 21 January 2026. To apply visit [EA Connect](#) or see [EA's website](#) for more information on the admissions process.



Friends Of Holy Trinity (FoHT) Thank you to the FoHT group for their fundraising Christmas raffle, held on the run up to Christmas. The raffle was a great success raising £2139.50 for our school. Thank

you to the businesses and friends of the school who donated prizes for the raffle. The FoHT Christmas disco was also a popular event among the children, we hope they enjoyed the dancing and socialising with their friends. The Disco raised a further £727.90. The money raised will go towards supporting school trips and equipment in our school.

Carol Service Our Christmas carol service in December was a great success. The choir had been practicing for several weeks in the run up to Christmas and gave a wonderful performance on the night. Well done to the children who read prayers and did readings so confidently, they did a great job.

Congratulations to the children who sang solo pieces, they were amazing.

Thank you to Mrs Kirke for leading the choir all year, she is very proud of the children's performance. Thank you also to Miss Murray who played the piano so beautifully on the night. The P2 children acted out the Nativity during the service, it was wonderful and really added to the service. Well done to the children and staff involved. Visit our website for more photos: <https://www.holytrinityps.com/news/holy-trinity-carol-service-a-a-a/>



Nativity shows Congratulations to our Nursery and Preschool classes and to our P1 classes on their wonderful Nativity shows. These were enjoyed by parents and family, as well as some of our classes across the school. There was a huge amount of work involved in preparing the children, the stage, the sound and the outfits for each show.

Well done to all the staff involved in putting these performances together. Thank you to Lunny Imaging who videoed the shows to send out to our parents.



Nursery/Preschool Christmas Nativity Show. For some clips visit our website or use the following link:
[Nursery Show:](#)



P1 Christmas Nativity Show. For photos visit our website or use the following link:
[P1 Show](#)



Holy Trinity Community raised £450 for the Air Ambulance Fund through our Christmas Jumper day. We were delighted to present a cheque for £450 to the Air Ambulance. The money was raised in conjunction with the School EA Catering staff and our school community. Thank you to everyone who donated to this worthy cause.

Holy Trinity Supports St Vincent de Paul Holy Trinity raised an amazing £1200 for St Vincent de Paul on the run up to Christmas. This money was raised from our P1 Nativity show raffles, from Nursery/Preschool Nativity show

donations and from Carol Service donations. This is a fantastic amount of money; it will go to help and support those in need in our area. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this very worthy cause. Pictured is Mr Treacy and some of our KS2 pupils presenting Martha Smith, (representing St Vincent de Paul) with a cheque for £1200.



Charity Head Shave On Friday 12th December Mr Dooris had his head shaved to raise money for the 'Cancer Fund for Children'. Teaching assistant Anne, who has trained as a hairdresser, volunteered to shave his head. The Cornagrade classes were all in the hall to watch this big event, which was also live-streamed to our Mill Street site. The children were so excited about this fund-raiser, they will remember the day Mr Dooris had his head shaved for a long time.

Nursery



Nursery - Overview of planned work for January

January – Winter.

- We are encouraging your child to become more independent through tidying up, using their knife & fork at dinner time and getting dressed independently for outdoor play.
- Using words “please”, “thank you” and “excuse me”.
- Stories & factual books relating to the Winter theme.
- Discussing the weather e.g. snow, frost, wind.
- Clothes worn in Winter and why.
- Matching & sorting clothes for different types of weather.
- Encourage your child to match e.g. socks, gloves.
- Using the language of big, bigger, biggest/small, smaller & smallest/long, longer & longest/short, shorter & shortest.
- Look for shapes when out and about e.g. square, triangle, circle & rectangle.
- Arts & Crafts – painting, cutting, sticking and printing relating to Winter theme.
- Hot & cold - The children will explore and see the changes brought about by heating and cooling.

REMINDERS

The online portal for applications for Nursery and Primary 1 will close **on Wednesday 21st January at 12 noon**. For more information or to apply visit: <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/pupil-applications-and-grants/admissions>

Grandparent's Day

Friday 23rd January from 12.15pm -1.15pm: Grandparents are invited into the Nursery for a Play & Stay.



Primary 1

Light and Dark In P1 children have enjoyed exploring shadows using torches during the dark winter mornings.



Winter P1 went on a sensory winter walk around our school grounds. The children looked at bare trees and felt the icy air and frost on the ground.



Primary 1 - Overview of planned work for January

Topic: Winter/Arctic Animals/Day & Night



Role Play: At the Café.

Focus Number: Number 5.



We are learning to write number 5, make a pattern of 5 and make a set of 5.

When we write 5 we say "**Make his hat, make his back, make his tummy very fat**". Children will be introduced to different ways of making 5. The story of 5 is: $1+4 = 5$, $2+3 = 5$, $3+2 = 5$, $4+1 = 5$, $5+0 = 5$. Continue to count with your child up to 5/10/15/20.

3D Shape: Cube.

We are learning how to recognise a cube this month. We will be experimenting with ice cubes, using cubes to count and building models using cubes. Look for cubes around your home and in the environment.

Money: Recognising 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p coins. We will be using these coins through our Role Play at the Café.

Jolly Phonics: This month we will be recapping on sounds covered to date and introducing g, o, u, l, f, b, ai.

World Around Us/STEM(Art:

Children will investigate how a solid changes to a liquid. We will freeze arctic animals and observe how the ice melts throughout the day.

We will also investigate if an ice cube or a chocolate button will melt first.

We will be going on a Winter nature walk around our school grounds and using charcoal to draw a winter tree at the art table.

Musical Pathways: Lessons in Musical Pathways will continue this term. The children are learning songs about Winter and are becoming more confident at participating.

Catholic Schools week: Commences 18th January. (More details to follow)

PE PE will resume in January, children will need to bring their school PE kit. They will change into their PE kit in school on 1 of the days. Details have been sent on Seesaw.



Homework:

- Please ensure your child is completing all set homework each evening and that colouring in is completed.
- Please sign homework to show that you are happy with your child's efforts.

Thank you for your continued support

Primary 2



Primary 2 - Overview of planned work for January

Topics: Winter & Space.

We will be looking for signs of Winter, talking about the weather, what we wear in winter and what the animals do in Winter. We will also be exploring the planets in our solar system including the moon and the sun, what astronauts do and how rockets can take us into space. We will be using 2D shapes to make rockets, junk modelling to create jet packs and split pins to make astronauts.



Learning Through Play:

We will continue to use our outdoor play area as part of learning through play **in all weathers**. Please ensure your child brings a **warm, waterproof coat** each day, along with a **name labelled hat, scarf and gloves** when needed. We also recommend keeping a spare pair of socks in their school bag. Our indoor learning through play activities will be linked to our **Winter & Space** topic.

Phonics/Literacy:

This month we will revisit the sounds that we have learned so far (including capital letters). We will also be looking at the sounds **Z z, W w, V v** and the digraphs **ee, or, ng** and **oo**. We will use these sounds to support reading and writing short words and simple sentences with increasing independence.



Numeracy:

In Numeracy this month we will be:

- learning doubles up to $5 + 5$,
- learning that numbers can be added in any order and the total stays the same (for example, $3 + 2$ is the same as $2 + 3$),
- adding more than 2 numbers together using practical resources within 20,
- making totals up to 10 (e.g. find 5 different ways to make 6) and writing the number sentences to match,
- beginning to explore subtraction within 10 using practical objects like cubes,
- using mathematical language to describe length (e.g. a little longer, a lot longer),
- exploring, comparing and ordering objects by their area.

Thank you for all your continued support.

Primary 3

Polar Regions Topic As part of our Polar Regions topic, we had two days full of Polar themed activities. We imagined what it would be like to be polar explorers and thought about the most important things that we would need to bring with us. We listened to stories and got to spend time in an 'igloo'



Polar Art work We did fun art and craft activities and even designed and created a den for a polar animal (STEM). We wrapped up warm and used Green Screen technology to create photographs of us in the Polar regions. To finish off our experience, we enjoyed some delicious hot chocolate.



Primary 3 - Overview of planned work for January

Literacy

Grammar: Children will know what plurals are. Children will change singular words into plural words, change endings (s, es).

Writing: Recount. Activities linked to the novel 'The Penguin Who Wanted To Find Out...'. Retell and sequence important events from the story. Look at ways the penguin looks after the smaller penguins and link it to their own experiences. Writing on the Arctic and Antarctic and polar animals

Spelling: Children will complete spellings each night (Mon – Wed). Use the look, say, cover, write, check method

Numeracy

Mental Maths: Looking for 2D shapes in their home environment. Counting in 2, 5, 10 and 20s.

Number: Add two-digit numbers to double digit numbers to 100, without carrying over. Add 2/3 numbers horizontally and vertically without carrying over.

Topic Maths – Shape.

Recognise a range of 2D shapes. Know the properties of 2D shapes. Compare and explore a range of 2D shapes.

Recognise lines of symmetry in 2D shapes.

World Around Us – Polar Lands.

Know where the polar lands are – map work, Google Earth Pro. Recognise the differences between the Arctic and the Antarctic. Compare temperatures in both regions. Explore and identify animals from these regions and their habitats.

Homework

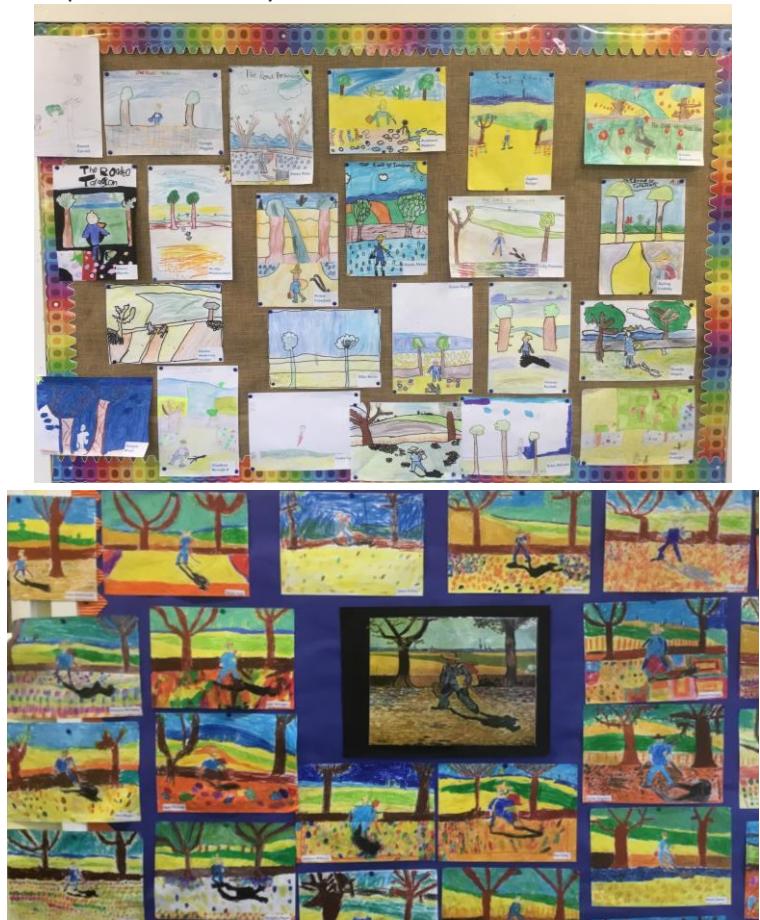
- Literacy/Numeracy – Given on a Monday and handed up on a Thursday.
- Religion – 'Grow in Love' Programme. Given on a Wednesday and handed up on a Friday.
- Spelling/tables revision completed every night.
- Mathletics tasks set on a Monday and completed for Thursday, linked to number and topic work.

Other

- Please send a coat with your child every day to school as we walk in Forthill and are out at break and dinner times. **Please label all coats/jumpers/cardigans clearly.**
- Healthy snacks to be eaten at break time only and treats to a minimum at dinner time.

Primary 4

P4 Art P4 have been learning about Vincent Van Gogh. Van Gogh was a famous artist who is well known for paintings like 'Sunflowers' and 'Starry Night'. He was born in 1853. Van Gogh felt sad sometimes and art was one of the only things that made him feel a little better. P4 enjoyed studying Van Gogh's piece 'The Road to Tarascon'. They had a go at their own piece. Aren't they beautiful?



Super Attendance in P4

Mrs Cathcart was delighted to report to the P4 teachers that there were several children who had 100% attendance for all of Term 1. Well done everyone.



P4 Overview of Planned Work for January

Literacy: Pupils will know that comparative adjectives are used to compare **two** things usually by adding the suffix er. Pupils will continue to learn their spellings using the LSCWC method and will complete various activities to reinforce the spelling rule. Pupils will be reading their class novel, 'Flat Stanley and the Great Egyptian Grave Robbery' and will be carrying out activities based on this. In writing, pupils will be learning about instructions and will be writing instructions for mummification linked to their WAU topic.

Numeracy: Pupils will be learning about subtraction using decomposition (borrowing & carrying). They will continue to learn multiplication facts. Pupils will solve subtraction word problems. Our topic work this month will cover handling data where pupils will use tally charts, record information on bar graphs and interpret and read pictograms.

World Around Us: Our topic this term will be Ancient Egypt. Pupils will be able to locate Egypt on a map and will be able to name the 7 continents. Pupils will learn about the features of rivers and learn about the importance of the River Nile. They will look at what has survived in Egypt today and they will learn about mummification. Pupils will design a fair test to mummify an orange. In art, pupils will look at self-portraits and complete their own. They will be researching Ancient Egypt to help complete PowerPoints on the computer. They will also design their own Egyptian cartouches for forming on the 3D printer.

Note: The next **Grow in Love Mass** is scheduled for Sunday 18th January at 10:30am in St Michael's Church.

Primary 5

P5 classes used a range of techniques to create beautiful Christmas art work.



P5 overview of Planned work For January

Numeracy

- **Number:** Multiplication and begin division work. Problem solving activities.
- **Topic:** Co-ordinates, grid references, compass points and directional work. Learn this rule for finding coordinates, '**Across** the hall and **up** the stairs'.
- **Mental Maths –** Multiplication and division tables.
- At home - learn times tables that are set each week.
- Problem solving activities and word problems for multiplication.

Literacy

- **Novel:** Starting 'Kaspar Prince of Cats' novel and related activities from novel booklet.
- **Grammar work:** Compound words (combination of two or more words that function as a single unit of meaning), homophones (said same but with a different meaning and spelling) and homonyms (similar words).
- **Writing:** Diary writing – Important features of a diary account, writing in the 1st person, sequencing events in chronological order and including feelings and emotions.
- **Spellings:** We will complete Schofield & Sims Spelling programme and related activities (week 14, 15, 16 and 17).

World Around Us: Topic: 'The Titanic'. Who built it? Where was it built? The construction, its departure, sections of the ship and passengers on the Titanic.

Other Information – Trips, Visits etc.

- 10 minutes Accelerated Reading every night. Children can go to library/computer suite each morning from 8.30– 8.55am, to get/change books and complete quizzes.
- P5 Library times are Monday and Thursday morning 8.30 - 8.55.am
- 10 mins of Mathletics to be completed as part of homework every night. Children should be getting 1000 points per week. This work will be based on what the children learn in class.
- Complete spelling revision every night. Spelling and tables test on Friday morning in school.
- Gaelic Football – Thursday.
- Irish lesson every Friday.
- Tuesday 10th February - Trip to the Titanic Quarter Belfast. Letter sent home, money to be paid before 21st January.

Primary 6

In P6 the children have been learning about speech marks. In class they practices using speech marks in human sentences.



P6 are enjoying PE with Gaelic coach Johnny Cassidy. Here they are working on their core strength and conditioning.



Primary 6 - Overview of planned work for January

Maths

Number Pupils will know tables up to x12, how to do short and long multiplication to 10,000 and how to solve word problems associated with multiplication. Pupils will also understand the relationship between multiplication and division.

Topic

- Investigate practically quarter turns, half turns and whole turns to understand the notion of angle in the context of turning.
- Know the 8 points of a compass and that angles turn in multiples of 45 degrees (compass) 30 degrees(clock).
- Follow instructions incorporating 8 points of the compass and relate to $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ turns and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a turn.
- Pupils will be able to calculate the inside angles of triangles and quadrilaterals.

English

- Pupils will know how to use speech marks. They will design a comic strip and begin to write a short play script.
- Pupils will understand and know the correct punctuation and grammar needed to write a play script.
- Pupils will know that adverbs are used to describe verbs (adverbs of manner time and place). They will know how a dialogue is set out and will use adverbs to qualify verbs in writing dialogue.

World Around Us The pupils will begin 'The Vikings' topic. They will find out who the Vikings were, where they came from and why they travelled to new lands.

Homework:

- **SPELLINGS** daily at home. Learn and complete columns on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in spelling booklet. Complete sentences or meanings on Monday night. Revise all tables on Thursday for Friday's test.
- **MENTAL ARITHMETIC** Monday Part A, Tuesday B, Wednesday part C. *Highlight* key parts and show working out
- **TABLES** Learn tables daily at home. (Use Topmarks 'Hit the Button' and 'Daily ten')
- Other short homework activities will be set occasionally)
- **READING:** Pupils are encouraged to read lots at home. Quizzes can be completed in school. Pupils are asked to complete one quiz per week. Please check what reading your child has to do each night alongside their AR Reading.

Primary 7

Primary 7 took part in a Financial Literacy course hosted by Bank of Ireland. They learned about needs versus wants, budgeting and how bank cards work.



Primary 7 had visits from St. Joseph's College and Erne Integrated College this week. They talked to us all about moving to Secondary school and what to expect. We also got to hear from some former Holy Trinity pupils and their experiences of Year 8.



Primary 7 - Overview of planned work for January

Numeracy

- This term in number we will be covering number multiples, products, square numbers, triangular numbers.
- For topic work we will be covering Measures, looking at length, weight, conversions and imperial units.
- Division tables from 1-12.

Literacy

- In writing children will focus on different types of poetry and create their own poems.
- Children will complete grammar work linked closely to their poetry, including metaphors, similes, personification.
- Novel Book: '12th Day of July'. Linked to our topic work, this novel is based in 1970s Belfast.

World Around Us

- The topic this term is Ireland/Northern Ireland. Pupils will be creating 3D models at home of their chosen Irish/N. Irish landmark.

PE: Children will be participating in weekly GAA lessons with AB coaching on Thursdays. Pupils will also take part in swimming lessons at the Share Centre.

SEAG Transfer Test: Results are released at 8am on the 24th of January 2026. Access is through the SEAG website. Click on top right corner to log in. Click on "**exam results**"

Applying for Secondary Schools:

- Parents should check SeeSaw for messages from Mr. Dooris about how to register on EA Connect.
- Applications for Year 8 open on the 27th January and close on the 19th February.

CONFIRMATION: Confirmation is on Sunday 3rd May 2026 in St. Michael's Church. P7 children will be attending a retreat trip to Lough Derg before Confirmation.

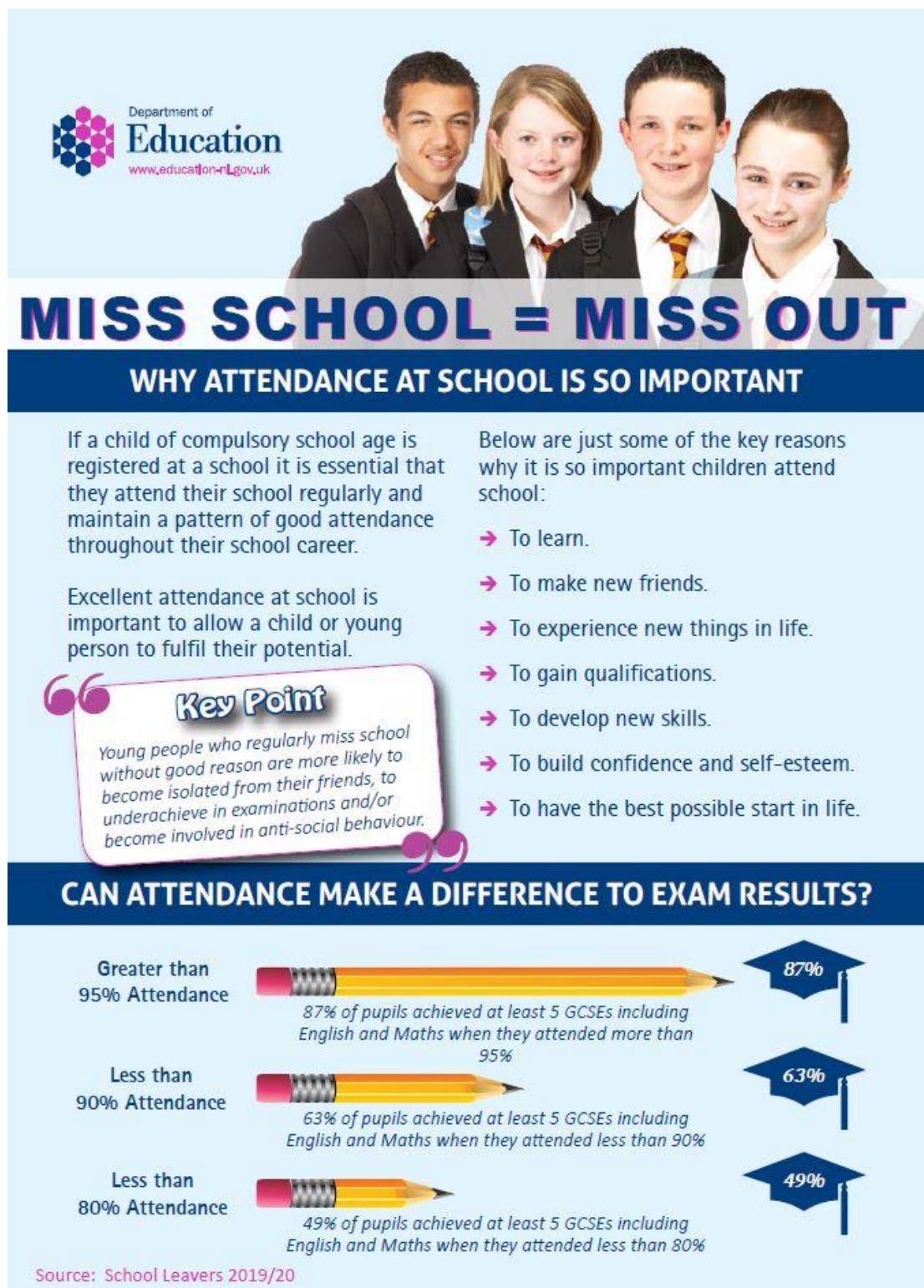
Open Days: Primary 7 will be attending Open Days over the next few weeks. Parents, please check your SeeSaw for Open Day times and dates.

- Thursday 15th January – Integrated Open Night – 7:00pm.
- Saturday 17th January – St. Joseph's Open Day – 10.30am.
- Wednesday 21st January – St Fanea's Open Night – 7:00pm.
- Thursday 22nd January – Mount Lourdes Open Night – 7:00 pm.
- Wednesday 28th January – St. Michael's Open Night – 7:00pm.
- Thursday 29th January – Erne Royal Grammar Open Night – 6:30pm.

Pupil Attendance Pupil attendance is very important at Holy Trinity, and we monitor it regularly. We have a number of attendance incentives for children:

- Best class attendance in each year group each month. These pupils receive an extra 15-minutes play, which always goes down well with the class.
- Individual children receive prizes for full attendance each month. A special certificate and small treat is awarded to those with FULL attendance at the end of each term.

Please try to send your child to school every day unless they are very unwell. If your child is going to be absent please contact the school with a reason for the absence, or complete the orange 'Explanations for absence' section in the back of your child's diary. This is so it can be noted on our Sims.



The graphic features a logo for the Department of Education (www.education-nlgov.uk) and four smiling school children. The main title is 'MISS SCHOOL = MISS OUT' and the subtitle is 'WHY ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL IS SO IMPORTANT'. A 'Key Point' box states: 'Young people who regularly miss school without good reason are more likely to become isolated from their friends, to underachieve in examinations and/or become involved in anti-social behaviour.' Below, a section titled 'CAN ATTENDANCE MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO EXAM RESULTS?' shows three categories of attendance rates: 'Greater than 95% Attendance', 'Less than 90% Attendance', and 'Less than 80% Attendance', each with a corresponding graduation cap icon showing the percentage of pupils achieving at least 5 GCSEs including English and Maths.

Key Point

Young people who regularly miss school without good reason are more likely to become isolated from their friends, to underachieve in examinations and/or become involved in anti-social behaviour.

CAN ATTENDANCE MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO EXAM RESULTS?

Attendance Rate	Percentage of pupils achieving at least 5 GCSEs including English and Maths
Greater than 95% Attendance	87%
Less than 90% Attendance	63%
Less than 80% Attendance	49%

Source: School Leavers 2019/20

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

- Establish a good routine in the mornings and evenings so your child is prepared for the school day ahead.
- Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the school rules.
- Ensure your child arrives at school on time - not late.
- Arrange dental and medical appointments outside school hours when possible.
- Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness - this should be followed up with a written
- note when your child returns to school.
- If your child is not attending school as you expect they may be putting themselves at risk - Who are they with? What are they doing?
- Do not take family holidays during term time.
- Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work (including homeworks).
- Attend parents evenings and school events.
- Praise and reward your child's achievements at school.
- Always support school staff in their efforts to control difficult or challenging behaviour.

Key Point

Parents of children aged 4-16 who are enrolled in school are legally required to make sure they attend.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning.

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed

nidirect.gov.uk/miss-school-miss-out