

# St. Catherine's Primary School

Principal: Mrs. Bridget Wilders B.Ed. P.G. Dip.Ed. P.Q.H

Email: bwilders592@c2kni.net



## JUNIOR SITE

Phone: (028) 7138 2272

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Strabane  
Co. Tyrone  
BT82 8HT

## SENIOR SITE

Phone: (028) 7138 2614

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St Catherines PS, Strabane



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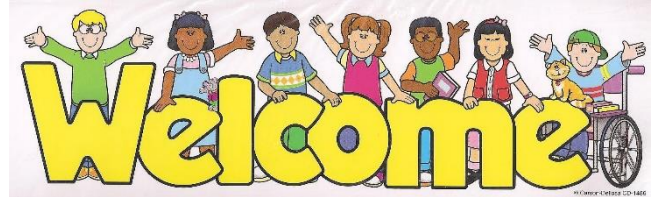


Follow us on Instagram : St Catherine's Primary School

**Monthly Note: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024**

**Check us out on our website: [www.stcatherinesps.co.uk](http://www.stcatherinesps.co.uk)**

## Welcome Back to School!



*It is with great excitement and joy that I, coupled with the entire staff and Governors, welcome you and your child(ren) to St. Catherine's Primary School. We value each and every little child and we will work so hard to ensure that your child's educational experience at St. Catherine's will indeed be a valuable and beneficial one preparing them for the future. Thank you for entrusting your child to us. We are very proud of all our children and look forward to this year with much excitement, hope and enthusiasm. Thank you for your support to date and we appreciate your patience, understanding and dedication as we embark on this new school year 2024 -2025! Communication with each other therefore remains vital going forward so please keep in touch!*

*God bless you all!*

Please note: Our monthly newsletter will give you all the school information that you require for each month ahead. There is a calendar will give you an overview of the MAIN events happening in school in the month ahead. If arrangements change during the month we will text you to update you regarding this. This newsletter will be emailed out to parents instead of sending home a paper copy. It will also be uploaded and available to our parents on our website and also available on our FREE School APP which you can download to your phone. (Details of these are on the letter head above). It is vital that we hold your current email address and mobile phone number or you may not receive vital school updates.

## Our School Vision:

**We all have a vision for our school here at St. Catherine's. This guides us and forms our overall goal for what we wish to achieve for our little pupils in partnership with our parents. Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us to achieve this.**

Our Vision for St. Catherine's Primary School and Nursery School is that it will be ...

- An outstanding school which is **wholly** child centred
  - rooted in Gospel Values of Christ
  - Where Children come first at all times
- A school of excellent practice where dedicated, talented staff will collaborate to ensure high quality teaching and learning in **all** curriculum areas for all our pupils from Nursery to Year 7
- A school with a family atmosphere – where emphasis is placed on forging strong, positive relationships between pupils, parents (who are the first educators), Staff, Governors, Parish & Community which will result in...  
Confident, happy young people who have high aspirations and high expectations who have developed physically, intellectually, emotionally, socially, morally and spiritually, who are life long learners and who will have the skills and capabilities to be successful, confident and comfortable in an ever changing world.



## After School Clubs Term 1

We will send out an Extended Schools Update Letter during the next two weeks of September detailing any after school clubs that we can offer to pupils going forward.

**Breakfast Club** started on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September on both sites from 8.15am-8.50am every morning!

**Family Club** will begin for Year 2 on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September and letters will have been sent out.



## Nut Allergy/ Healthy Breaks

In the interests of Health & Safety we ask our **parents/ carers/ pupils not to allow any break/ lunch items that may contain nuts or kiwi.**

We do have children in the school who have a nut allergy and as you may be aware if there are any foods with nuts at all, this may prove very serious for this child. Therefore any food item which has a chocolate trace to it is unacceptable as there can often be nut traces contained therein. Children should only bring a healthy break to school eg. Sandwich, cheese strings, fruit, yoghurt. No crisps/chocolate bars allowed as we are a Healthy Eating School.

All children from Year 2-7 should bring their own healthy breaks.

For their first year in school our Year 1 children will be provided with Free Fruit to encourage and promote Healthy Eating.

We really appreciate your cooperation and support in this matter.



## **Best wishes to Miss Doherty!!**

As you may be aware, Miss Doherty has had illness and as a result will be out of school this term. She is recovering very well and we send her best wishes for her continued recovery.

As a result, we are in the process of sorting out an Acting Vice Principal and Learning Support Leader. When this is finalized we will let you know. In the meantime, feel free to share any concerns to the class teacher or if urgent please email Mrs Wilders (Principal) at [bwilders592@c2kni.net](mailto:bwilders592@c2kni.net) or contact the school office on either site.

We appreciate your support, patience and understanding while we adjust going forward. Thank you.



## Updating our School Records

As I am sure you will appreciate, it is vitally important that we hold accurate records, contact numbers and details of any health issues about all our pupils in the event of an emergency, Therefore we ask you to complete a "Data Capture Form" for each child so that the information we hold about our pupils is correct. Please complete and return this form immediately. Sometimes parents do not receive text messages and this can be because parents mobile numbers may have been changed. If your mobile phone number, home address, email address or any of your contact details have changed please let us know immediately. Sometimes parents do not receive written notifications as they may have moved house and forgotten to let us know their new address! Please keep us up to date.

## Photo Permissions and Medical Information

Every year we ask for parental permission with regard to photography of your children and we also ask to be made aware of your child's medical needs. Your child will receive forms this week for you to complete and send back into school via their class teacher. We ask for you to complete these forms and return to school by **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September.** Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.



### Milk Money (PRIMARY PUPILS ONLY)

Years 2-7: Milk starts on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September. The cost of milk from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September until 19<sup>th</sup> December is £ 13.60 .

Year 1: Milks starts on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September when all year 1 pupils are in school for a full day. The cost will be £11.80 from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September until 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Milk money is due on or before Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September so that orders can be placed to the dairy. Milk money should be placed in the SCHOOL MONEY APP.

### School Dinners

Children may bring their own lunch or they may have a school dinner prepared by our kitchen staff in the two sites of St. Catherine's. Meals will be served in the canteen with only two class bubbles in the canteen at any given time. Both canteens have acquired 5 Star status and we are very proud of them indeed. The cost of school dinner this year will be £ 2.60 per day and should be paid via the SCHOOL MONEY APP. There are NEW DINNER MENUS attached to this newsletter...one for each week of the month. Dates are in the top corner of the menu. Please read carefully.

For any child who is entitled to Free School Meals ... parents should apply to the Education Authority (EA), Omagh. Phone 02882 411411. If you haven't applied or your application has not yet been processed please ring EA immediately.

**The Education Authority has advised us that it should be noted that if you have not applied for Free School Meals yet the application if approved will NOT be backdated. If your child's application has not been approved yet parents can either send a wee packed lunch with your child or alternatively pay for school dinner until the application has been approved.**



### School Lunches

As mentioned earlier we are a "Healthy Eating School" and in keeping with our Food in Schools Policy we would ask you to provide a healthy break for your child and a healthy lunchbox. A list of acceptable foods are listed at the back of this note



### Physical Education (Primary School ONLY)

**It is crucial that our children have opportunities for physical fitness and learning more about their bodies and having a healthy lifestyle.**

**Our children will have opportunities to play at breaktime and lunchtime in their bubble groups(Weather permitting)**

**As soon as our little children settle in at school, we will begin PE lessons also.**

**Staff in each class will let you know when PE will begin and on which days it will take place. Children may wear their PE Gear to school on PE Days instead of their full uniform. The purpose of this is to minimise changing in school and help control the spread of infection.**

**If in doubt regarding PE time, you can email your child's teacher and they will be happy to give clarity.**



### P.T.F.A.

We have a P.T.F.A. (Parents, Teachers, Friends Association) whose members work so hard to raise funds for our school in order to best support our little children. We invite everyone that is available to come along and join our wee group. The work of the PTFA involves mainly fundraising activities for our wee pupils so that we can provide the little extras for them in school!!! Everyone is welcome! Your child's school needs you!! Our first PTFA Meeting this school year will take place on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm in Junior School** .We look forward to seeing you there! All are welcome!



School Rules and Guides to making school life a happy experience for everyone!

We have three simple school rules in St. Catherine's which everyone should adhere to and they are .....

1. WORK HARD.
2. ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST.
3. TREAT EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING WITH RESPECT.

Staff Training Day

School will be closed on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September due to a staff training day.



School Photographer

Our school photographer will be in school to take our children's photographs on ....

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October: Years 1-4 (Junior School)

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October : Nursery, Year 5, Year 6 and Year 7 (Senior School)

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October: Family PRE BOOKED photo shoots . A family member must come to the school to collect family members, take them to the photo session in the SENIOR SCHOOL HALL and then return the children to class again. A letter will be sent out to parents to book school photo family slots

Individual photos and class group photos will be organised by staff. All children will have their photos taken in Nursery, Year 1 and Year 7. All classes will be taken in their class groups. If any parent of a child from Years 2-6 would like individual photos of their child you must also let the teacher know.

Parents will have a proof sent to them and you may purchase if you wish to but you are under no obligation to purchase photos for your child.



## Swimming Lessons for Year 5 Pupils begin again!!

Year 5 B Swimming Lessons : Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November  
(Inclusive)

Year 5 A Swimming Lessons : Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January  
(Inclusive)

The cost of the whole block of lessons for each child is £25 including transport.

**Please pay this money in full or a £10 deposit on the School Money App no later than Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September to secure a place.** We are very excited that swimming has begun again for our little pupils. Pupils should wear their swim costume to school on the day of their swimming lesson underneath their uniform. Pupils should also bring a swim hat and may bring goggles. Pupils should also bring a towel and a hairbrush (plus fresh underwear for changing in to afterwards.)

We are very excited to be offering this exciting opportunity again to our Year 5 Pupils as part of their PE Curriculum.



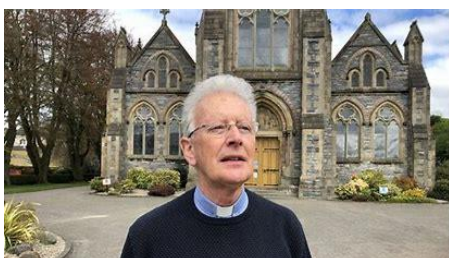
### Parish News

As many will be aware, our own dear Fr Boland retired as Parish Priest of the Camus Parish and as School Chaplain and Governor of St Catherine's. Although we will miss him terribly, he has served well and is most deserving of a well earned rest and we can only wish him every good wish for health and happiness in his retirement.

We warmly welcome Fr Michael Mc Caughey as new Parish Priest of not only our parish but also the Parishes of Leckpatrick and Clonleigh (Lifford). This is a big change for us all. We ask God to give Fr Mc Caughey strength, energy and guidance as he embarks on this journey with us all. May God bless him in his work.

To this end, as Fr Mc Caughey takes some time to settle in to his new post, we have no Holy Communion/ Confirmation dates yet but as soon as we do know, we will inform parents. We ask for your patience and understanding on this.

As a mark of thanks to Fr Boland for all he has given us, we will be arranging a little celebration on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October. More details to follow when finalised.





Welcoming to the SLIMMING WORLD Group to St. Catherine's!!

For the first time we are delighted to facilitate a NEW SLIMMING WORLD Group in St. Catherine's Junior School every Wednesday from 5.30pm-7.30pm every WEDNESDAY right throughout the year! Everyone Welcome.

If you wish to find out more about this exciting new opportunity please feel free to contact Allison on 07856710051 or just come along to the session!



Every Wednesday from 5.30pm  
St Catherine's (junior site)

no booking required!

Weigh opens 5.30-6pm  
Group talk 6.05-6.45pm  
Late weigh 6.50-7.15pm



Contact Allison on 07856710051  
FB: slimworld Allison Strabane & dromore

read Joe, Sapphire and Abby's stories here  
[slimmingworld.co.uk](http://slimmingworld.co.uk)

\*Price shown is RRP. Terms and conditions apply. Visit [slimmingworld.co.uk/offers](http://slimmingworld.co.uk/offers) for more information.



**A message from our Literacy Leader Mrs Connolly.....**

### **Book Character Day Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

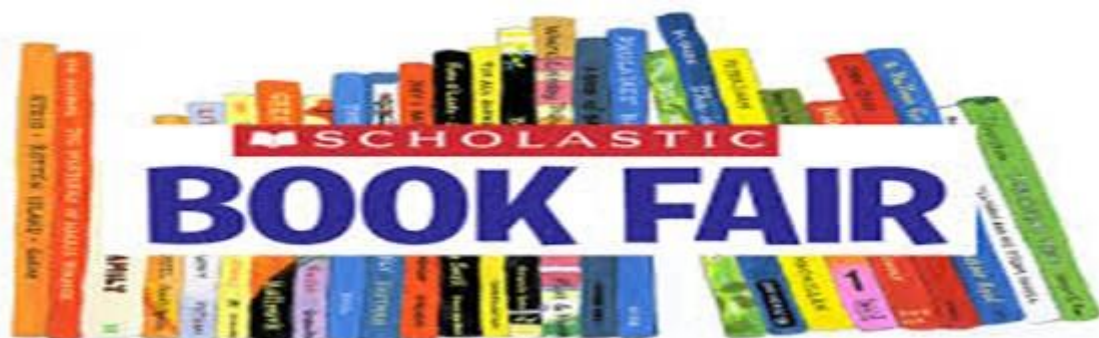
We are delighted to be celebrating Book Week from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October until Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October! Children throughout the years have loved dressing up for Book Character Day and gain so much from it in terms of a love of reading and literature. We understand that these are very challenging times for everyone and we would remind parents that simple, homemade costumes are very often the best! If anyone has any costumes for Book Character Day that they wish to recycle, please send in to the class teacher and these will be passed to our PTFA for sorting. We will let you know any costumes that we have so that they can be reused when we collect them! More to follow!

Children can come to school dressed as a character from a fairy tale, book or a Nursery Rhyme. Every child will go home with a little token of appreciation for their efforts. They will have a fun filled day in school! Keep an eye on social media for some photos of their day.



### **Book Fair Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October-Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

Our annual book fair will be here this year again! Your child will have the opportunity to purchase a book at the Book Fair. If you would like your child to purchase a book, simply send their money to school with them in an envelope with their name marked on it. They will have an opportunity to browse the book fair and bring the book home with them the day. We would like to thank you for your continued support as every purchase made provides funding towards books for the children in school! More details will follow!





# Recycling

Sharing pre loved items is a very important and special activity to engage in. We were all reared with the motto “share and share alike”.

We have a Uniform Recycling Bank which operates all year round. If anyone needs a piece of Uniform just check with us first and we may just have the size you need. The Uniform Recycling Bank is based in the Senior School Site so if you make contact with the Clerical Officer there, you will get sorted!

We collect pre loved uniform items also. If you wish to make a donation, just place your donation in the BLUE Recycling Bin at the front foyer of each school site, thanks in advance.

As part of Book Character Day, our little children “LIVE” their characters by dressing up and they do love it. Parents are so supportive. If you have a preloved costume that you no longer need in your family please donate and when we collect them we will have a sharing event before Book Character Day also. You can send any pre loved Book Character Costumes into the class teacher or school office staff who will in turn pass on to our PTFA for sorting!

## Holy Communion Dress / Suit Recycling

If anyone wishes to donate any Holy Communion Outfits, we will also recycle these. Again simply send into school and they will be passed on to PTFA for sorting.



## Primary School Curriculum Information (Years 2-7):

Reading Books to be sent home	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> September
Spellings/ Tables/ Number Facts to be given out to children	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September
End of Week Spellings/ Numeracy Assessments to begin. (Every class teacher will assess spellings/ tables/ Number facts on Fridays)	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> September
Written Homework to start (using Homework Diaries P2 - P7)	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September

### Homework:

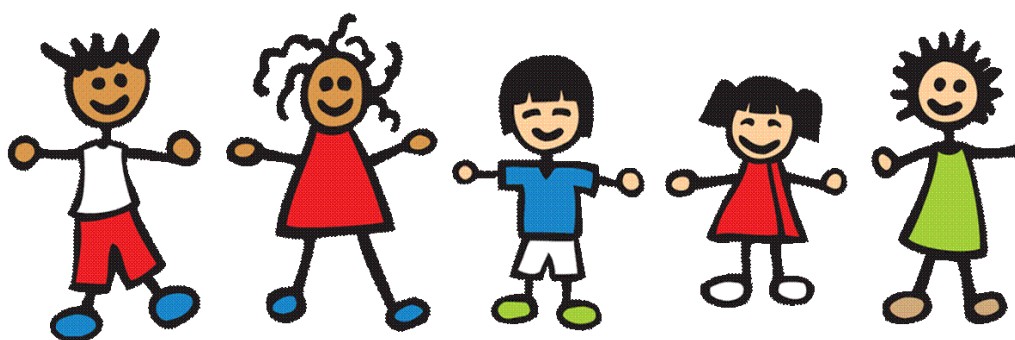
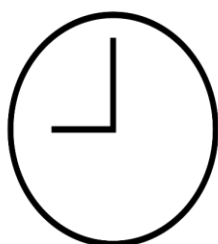
Written Homework reinforces learning from school. Post covid we have changed homework so that it is given out at the start of the week and collected at the end of the week. This is to give greater freedom to pupils who attend out of school clubs, coaching, drama classes etc. However it is **CRUCIAL** that children read a little every night to enhance their reading skills and also for enjoyment. Please ensure that your child reads a little every single night both school reading book, comics, novels etc. This year we will have a focus on **READING** and will be changing one of the monthly awards to **READER OF THE MONTH** to promote this. Thank you for supporting us in this initiative.

## School Start Times and Collection Times

Year Group	Drop off / Collection Point	Start Time	Finish Time
Nursery Room 1	Nursery Room 1 External Door	9am-9.30am	1.30pm- 1.40pm
Nursery Room 2	Nursery Room 2 External Door	9am-9.30am	1.30pm- 1.40pm
Year 1A (Mrs Doherty)	Pupil Front door facing school gate	8.50am-9am	2.10pm
Year 1B (Miss Hutton)	Back Door opposite the Play Trail	8.50am-9am	2.10pm
Year 2 A (Mrs Mc Glynn)	Back Door opposite the Play Trail	8.50am-9am	2.15pm
Year 2 B (Ms Y Mc Gowan)	Pupil Front door facing school gate nearest to Mrs Doherty's classroom in Junior School Site	8.50am-9am	2.15pm
Learning Centre (Junior School)  (Mrs Hamilton)	Middle Floor Door near mobile classroom at the back of the Junior School	8.50am-9am	2.10pm (Year 1) 2.15pm (Year 2)  3pm (Year 3 & 4 Pupils except Feel Good Friday)
Social and Communication Class (Junior School)  (Ms B Kelly)	Middle Floor Door near mobile classroom at the back of the Junior School	8.50am-9am	2.10pm (Year 1) 2.15pm (Year 2)  3pm (Year 3 & 4 Pupils except Feel Good Friday)
Year 3 A ( Miss M Maguire )	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	8.50am-9am	Mon – Thursday 3.00pm (2.30pm On Feel Good Friday)
Year 3 B (Mrs S Vaughan/ Mrs L Downey)	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	8.50am-9am	Mon – Thursday 3.00pm (2.30pm On Feel Good Friday)
Year 4 A (Mr J Wade )	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	8.50am-9am	Mon – Thursday 3.00pm (2.30pm On Feel Good Friday)
Year 4 B (Mrs A King)	Pedestrian Gate to the right of the Main Gate at the Junior School Site	8.50am-9am	Mon – Thursday 3.00pm (2.30pm On Feel Good Friday)



Year 5 A (Mrs C Gormley)	Enter Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School and line up at Year 5A Meeting Point where teacher will collect the class	8.50am-9am	Mon – Thursday 3.00pm (2.30pm On Feel Good Friday)
Year 5 B (Miss E Keyes )	Enter Double Gate at front of Senior School site nearest to the Main Front Door and line up at Year 5B Meeting Point where teacher will collect the class	8.50am-9am	Mon – Thursday 3.00pm (2.30pm On Feel Good Friday)
Year 6 A (Mrs B Daly )	Enter Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School and line up at Year 6A Meeting Point where teacher will collect the class	8.50am-9am	Mon – Thursday 3.00pm (2.30pm On Feel Good Friday)
Year 6 B (Mrs S O’Kane )	Enter Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School and line up at Year 6B Meeting Point where teacher will collect the class	8.50am-9am	Mon – Thursday 3.00pm (2.30pm On Feel Good Friday)
Year 7 A (Mrs C Gillespie)	Enter Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School and line up at Year 7A Meeting Point where teacher will collect the class	8.50am-9am	Mon – Thursday 3.00pm (2.30pm On Feel Good Friday)
Year 7 B (Mrs C Deery )	Enter Double Gate at front of Senior School site nearest to the Main Front Door and line up at Year 7B Meeting Point where teacher will collect the class	8.50am-9am	Mon – Thursday 3.00pm (2.30pm On Feel Good Friday)
Learning Centre (Senior School) (Mrs C Connolly)	Enter Gate at the right hand side of the Senior School and line up at Learning Centre Meeting Point where teacher will collect the class	8.50am-9am	Mon – Thursday 3.00pm (2.30pm On Feel Good Friday)



## Staff roles and Email addresses.

Staff Member	Class / Role	Email Address
Mrs Bridget Wilders	Principal	<a href="mailto:bwilders592@c2kni.net">bwilders592@c2kni.net</a>
Miss Jennifer Doherty	Vice Principal	<a href="mailto:jdoherthy742@c2kni.net">jdoherthy742@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs B. Porter	Nursery Room 1	<a href="mailto:bporter544@c2kni.net">bporter544@c2kni.net</a>
Ms K Carlin	Nursery Room 2	<a href="mailto:kcarlin208@c2kni.net">kcarlin208@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs D. Doherty	Year 1 A	<a href="mailto:ddoherty115@c2kni.net">ddoherty115@c2kni.net</a>
Miss C. Hutton	Year 1 B	<a href="mailto:chutton763@c2kni.net">chutton763@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs A.M. Mc Glynn	Year 2 A	<a href="mailto:amcglynn388@c2kni.net">amcglynn388@c2kni.net</a>
Ms Y Mc Gowan	Year 2 B	<a href="mailto:ymcgowan609@c2kni.net">ymcgowan609@c2kni.net</a>
Miss M Maguire	Year 3 A	<a href="mailto:mmaguire497@c2kni.net">mmaguire497@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs S Vaughan/ Mrs L Downey	Year 3 B	<a href="mailto:svaughan325@c2kni.net">svaughan325@c2kni.net</a> <a href="mailto:ldowney759@c2kni.net">ldowney759@c2kni.net</a>
Mr J Wade	Year 4 A	<a href="mailto:amcguinnessking376@c2kni.net">amcguinnessking376@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs A King	Year 4 B	<a href="mailto:jwade336@c2kni.net">jwade336@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs C Gormley	Year 5 A	<a href="mailto:cgormley833@c2kni.net">cgormley833@c2kni.net</a>
Miss E Keyes	Year 5 B	<a href="mailto:ekeyes746@c2kni.net">ekeyes746@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs B Daly	Year 6 A	<a href="mailto:bdaly611@c2kni.net">bdaly611@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs S O'Kane	Year 6 B	<a href="mailto:sokane510@c2kni.net">sokane510@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs C. Gillespie	Year 7 A	<a href="mailto:cgillespie221@c2kni.net">cgillespie221@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs C Deery	Year 7 B	<a href="mailto:cdeery318@c2kni.net">cdeery318@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs C Connolly	Learning Centre (Senior School)	<a href="mailto:cconnolly309@c2kni.net">cconnolly309@c2kni.net</a>
Mrs. C. Hamilton	Learning Centre (Junior School)	<a href="mailto:chamilton290@c2kni.net">chamilton290@c2kni.net</a>
Ms B Kelly	Social and Communication Class (Junior School)	<a href="mailto:bkelly663@c2kni.net">bkelly663@c2kni.net</a>



## Settling In period for Nursery and Year 1 Pupils

### Nursery Settling In Plan Times of School

Week 1-3 : Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> -Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 9.00am-11.30am

Week 4 : Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> -Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 9.00am-12.30pm.

Lunch/Dinner will commence this week

Week 5 : Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September -Full Nursery Day commences.

Pick-up time 1.30pm

### Year 1 Settling In Plan Times of School

Week 1 (Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September) - 8:50 am-12 Noon

Week 2 (Monday 9<sup>th</sup>- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September) – 8:50am- 12 Noon

Week 3 (Monday 16<sup>th</sup> -Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September) – 8:50am- 12.45pm (Including Lunch)

Week 4 (Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> a September onwards)- 8.50am-2.10pm (Full day)





## School Meals and Snacks

School Dinner costs £2.60 in Primary School and £2.50 in Nursery)

Children should bring healthy snacks for break and if taking packed lunch; should bring a healthy lunch as per our Food in Schools Policy.



### **Child Protection and Safeguarding**

We will be sending out our UPDATED Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy next week .Please read this policy and return the parent form that comes with it [to the class teacher by Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September] to let us know that you have received the policy. We thank you for your support and understanding in this matter.

### **School Closures**

We have attached a list of school closures for this year.

### **Complaints Policy and Procedures**

We welcome comments, suggestions and compliments at any time! You can also contact the Principal or Senior Member of staff by phoning the school and making an appointment at any time. You may also email the principal at the email address stipulated with teaching staff emails on this newsletter.

Thank you!

## Meet our Clerical Team



Mrs Caroline Connolly  
Executive Officer



Mrs Clare Kelly  
Senior Clerical Officer



Mrs Caroline Devine Roberts  
Clerical Officer

## Prayer of the Month for September

### Prayer for Return to School

God our Father, we thank you for our children as they return to our school community. We entrust them to the tender care of your son Jesus, their brother and their friend. May they know that he is with them each day- in their joy, in their learning, in their friendships, and in the times when they are unsure or afraid.

We ask your blessing on all who will support and encourage them throughout the year and pray that we will always be open to the gift of the Holy Spirit, to guide us in the ways of Jesus.

Amen.





## PATHS Quote of the Month September



We are delighted that our school is a PATHS Model School and that PATHS is taught in all classes from Nursery right through to Primary 7. The PATHS programme involves lots of fun activities dealing with important issues such as Feelings, Behaviours, Solving Problems, Making Friends and Self-Esteem. It links directly with our Personal Development and Mutual Understanding curriculum and aims to help children develop the fundamental skills needed for life. From time to time your child will have fun home activities to complete relating to the programme. Get involved! Ask your child in the coming weeks about our fantastic PATHS programme and help prepare them with the essential skills they need for their life ahead. There will be an inspirational PATHS quote each month in our newsletter highlighting key PATHS ideas.

### **Check out September's quote...The Golden Rule.....**

Being kind should be a goal for everyone everyday. It is not difficult to be kind, in fact it is easy. So be kind to your family, your friends, the adults in school, your football coach, your dance teacher, your bus driver; share your kindness with everyone. You have a lot of kindness in you and you never know who might need it today.

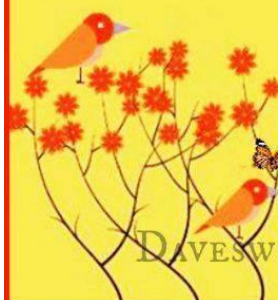
Always treat people the way you want to be treated.



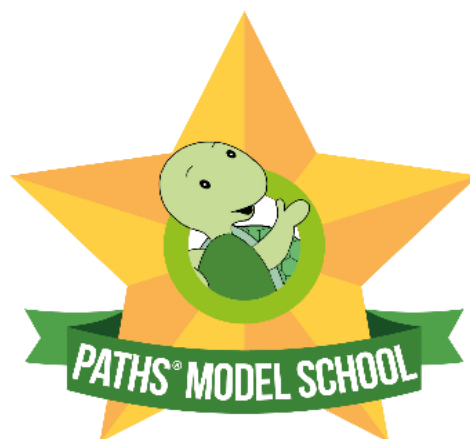
Talk to people the way you want to be talked to.



Respect is earned not given.



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# St. Catherine's Primary School



## Holiday List for 2024 2025

The school will be **closed** on:

Five Allocated Staff Training Days which have been allocated throughout the Year.

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (**Staff Training Day 1** )

### Hallowe'en – Mid Term Break

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024

(Reopens on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024)

### Christmas Break

School closes on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 12 Noon – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

(**School Reopens for everyone on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025** )

### Spring Term Break

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 until Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025

(**School Reopens for our pupils on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025** )

### St. Patrick's Day Break

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025 (St. Patrick's Day Public Holiday)

(**School Reopens for our pupils on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025**)

### Easter Break

School closes on Holy Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 12 Noon

**School Reopens on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

### May Breaks

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 ( Bank Holiday )

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2025: **Staff Training Day 5 (SDD 5)** School Closed to pupils

School Closes on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 12 Noon.

Please note other Staff Training Days that teachers will complete during the year are incorporated into the pupil holidays. If there is any change to this we will let parents know as soon as possible.

## Site Leadership Rota

Junior School : Monday, Wednesday, Friday – Mrs Wilders

Tuesday, Thursday - Miss J Doherty

Senior School: Monday, Wednesday, Friday – Miss J Doherty

Tuesday, Thursday – Mrs Wilders



In the event that the Principal or Vice Principal are not available Senior Leaders or any of the Middle Leadership Team will become available for consultation.



## Staff Parking

**There is a Car Park on each site for STAFF. Staff arrive at school from 8.20am approx. every morning right up to 9am. To this end, we respectfully request that the entrances to the STAFF Car Parks on each site are always kept clear so that staff can gain access to each site and get ready to start the day with our wee children!!**

**Parents/carers/ child minders/ taxi drivers etc may NOT enter the school car park for Health and Safety Reasons unless this has been prearranged with school management for a specific reason.**



# Surestart Message of the Month

## September



Sing a rhyme anytime  
Start your child learning  
for a lifetime!





# We are a Healthy Eating School in St. Catherine's.

Below are the list of foods that are acceptable / not acceptable for Healthy Eating Purposes.

If you have any concerns please consult your child's teacher.

<b><i>Foods we consider acceptable:</i></b>	<b><i>Foods that are not acceptable:</i></b>
Fruit (except kiwi)	Nuts or any other products with a nut content / trace
Fruit pots	Crisps
Rice pots	Sweets
Custard pots (not chocolate flavour)	Chocolate Bars
Jelly pots	Chocolate yoghurts
Vegetables (eg. carrot sticks / celery sticks)	Chocolate Muller Corners
Sandwiches (no chocolate spreads or no peanut butter)	Chocolate biscuits
Scones	Chocolate chip cookies
Wheaten bread	All cereal bars
Pitta bread	Square Bars
Tortilla Bread	Lunchables
Pancakes	Iced Buns
Croissants (no chocolate brioche)	Pepperami
Plain buns	Fruit Winders
Ryvita / crispbreads	
Yoghurts	
Plain biscuits: Rich Tea, Digestives, Plain Crackers and Belvita Plain Biscuits	
Cheese / Dairylea Triangles / Cheese Slices / Baby Bel / Cheese Strings	
Breadsticks / Pretzels	
Rice Cakes	
Snack a Jacks	

<b><i>Foods that are not acceptable:</i></b>	<b><i>Reason Why:</i></b>
Nuts or any other products with a nut content / trace	We have children with a nut allergy
Crisps	High fat and salt content
Sweets	High sugar content
Chocolate Bars, chocolate yoghurts, chocolate Muller Corners, chocolate biscuits and chocolate chip cookies	High sugar content and many brands of chocolate contain traces of nuts
All cereal bars and Square Bars	High in sugar and fat content
Lunchables	High sugar content
Iced Buns	High sugar content
Pepperami	High fat content
Fruit Winders	High sugar content

Healthy  
Habits



## St. Catherine's Nursery & Primary School September 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September is Blood Cancer Awareness Month						
1.	2. Back to School Yr 2-7 Monthly Newsletter sent out. Nursery & Year 1 Staggered intake Nursery Home time:11.30am Year 1 Home time: 12 noon	3. Nursery Home time: 11.30am Year 1 Home time: 12 noon	4. Nursery Home time:11.30am Year 1 Home time: 12 noon Slimming World (JS) 5.30pm – 7.30pm	5. Nursery Home time: 11.30am Year 1 Home time: 12noon	6. Nursery Home time:11.30am Year 1 Home time: 12 noon	7.
8.	9. <b>Reading Books to be sent home - Years 2-7</b> Nursery Home time:11.30am Year 1 Home time: 12 noon Family Club begins for Yr 2. Swimming Year 5B Session 1 of 8	10. Nursery Home time: 11.30am Year 1 Home time: 12 noon	11. Nursery Home time:11.30am Year 1 Home time: 12 noon Slimming World (JS) 5.30pm – 7.30pm	12. Nursery Hometime:11.30am Year 1 Home time: 12 noon	13. <b>Staff Development Day 1</b>  <b>School closed to pupils.</b>	14.
15.	16. <b>Spellings/ Tables begin Yrs 3 – 7.</b> Nursery Home time:11.30am  Year 1 Home time: 12.45pm	17. Nursery Home time: 11.30am  Year 1 Home time:	18. Nursery Home time: 11.30am  Year 1 Home time: 12.45pm	19. Nursery Hometime: 11.30am  Year 1 Hometime: 12.45pm	20. Nursery Home time:11.30am Year 1 Home time: 12.45pm	21.
22.	23. <b>Written homework begins Yrs 2 – 7.</b>  Family Club begins for Year 1 & 2. Nursery Hometime:12.30pm Year 1 Home time: 2.10pm Swimming Year 5B Session 3 of 8	24. Nursery Home time:12.30pm Year 1 Home time: 2.10pm	25. Nursery Hometime:12.30pm Year 1 Home time: 2.10pm Slimming World (JS) 5.30pm – 7.30pm	26. Nursery Hometime:12.30pm Year 1 Home time: 2.10pm	27. Nursery Home time:12.30pm Year 1 Home time: 2.10pm	28.

*FIRSTS ARE BEST BECAUSE THEY ARE BEGINNINGS.*

**Upcoming in October: School Photographer: Tues 8<sup>th</sup> , Wed 9<sup>th</sup> , Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> October; Book Character Day: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October**



**School Dinner Menu – September 2024 onwards (Please note that soup/ sandwiches are also available daily upon request if pupils do not wish to avail of the hot food choices)**

# EAT SMART WITH THE LUNCH BUNCH



WEEKS SERVED	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
19 February 18 March 15 April 13 May 10 June 2 September 30 September	Beef Bolognaise - Or - Chicken Goujon Wrap with choice of dip  Sweetcorn / Broccoli Pasta Spirals / Mashed Potato  Chocolate & Orange Cookie	Homemade Margherita Pizza - Or - Chinese-style Beef & Vegetables / Noodles  Mushy or Garden Peas / Baked Beans Chipped Potato / Baked Potato  Raspberry Jelly & Two Fruits	Chicken Curry & Naan Bread - Or - - Breaded Fish & Lemon Mayo  Diced Carrots & Green Beans Rice / Mashed Potato  Fruit Sponge & Custard	Roast of the Day, Stuffing & Gravy - Or - Salmon & Creamy Tomato Pasta  Fresh Vegetables in Season Mashed Potato / Oven Roast Potato  Ginger Biscuit & Custard	Hot Dog / Veggie Dog with Tomato Ketchup - Or - Chicken & Summer Veg Pie  Spaghetti Hoops / Corn on the Cob Chipped / Mashed Potatoes  Ice-Cream & Mandarin Oranges
26 February 25 March 22 April 20 May 17 June 9 September	Golden Crumbed Fish Fingers - Or - Freshly Baked Ham & Cheese Panini  Baked Beans & Garden Peas Chipped / Baked Potato  Homemade Flakemeal Biscuit	Beef Ragu Italia - Or - Homemade Margherita Pizza  Sweetcorn / Diced Carrots / Coleslaw Mashed Potato / Wedges / Pasta  Mandarin Orange Sponge & Custard	Chicken Curry & Naan Bread - Or - Baked Pork Sausages & Gravy  Garden Peas / Baton Carrots Boiled Rice / Mashed Potato  Arctic Roll and Peaches	Roast of the Day, Stuffing & Gravy - Or - Quorn Dippers  Fresh Vegetables in Season Mashed / Oven Roast Potato  Homemade Brownie & Orange Wedges	Chicken Goujons & Sweet Chilli Dip - Or - Roast Mediterranean Vegetable Pasta Bake  Spaghetti Hoops / Corn on the Cob Chipped / Baby New Potatoes  Fruit Muffin & Apple / Orange Juice
4 March 1 April 29 April 27 May 24 June 16 September	Golden Crumbed Fish Fingers - Or - Creamy Chicken & Broccoli Pasta with Garlic Bread  Sweetcorn / Peas Chipped / Mashed Potato / Coleslaw  Ice-Cream, Pears & Chocolate Sauce	Homemade Cottage Pie - Or - Homemade Margherita Pizza  Broccoli / Cauliflower Oven Baked Potato Wedges / Baked Potato  Jelly & Fruit	Chicken Curry & Naan Bread - Or - Beef Meatball  Green Beans / Baton Carrots Steamed Rice / Mashed Potato  Sticky Date Pudding & Custard	Roast of the Day, Stuffing & Gravy - Or - Chicken & Pepper Fajita  Fresh Vegetables in Season Mashed Potato / Oven Roast Potato  Golden Krispie Square	School "Chippy Day" Chicken or Fish Goujons / Sausages - Or - Baked Potato with Tuna & Sweetcorn / Salad Beans / Mushy Peas Chipped / Baby New Potatoes  Ice-Cream Tub
11 March 8 April 6 May 3 June 26 August 23 September	Baked Pork Sausages & Gravy - Or - Jerk Chicken & Caribbean Rice with Flatbread  Baked Beans / Garden Peas Chipped / Baked Potato  Lemon Shortbread & Melon Wedge	Chicken Curry & Naan Bread - Or - - Salt & Chilli Chicken Nuggets  Sweetcorn / Baton Carrots Boiled Rice / Oven Roasted Garlic & Paprika Wedges  Fruit Muffin & Apple / Orange Juice	Breaded Fish & Lemon Mayo - Or - Beef Lasagne, Garlic Bread & Coleslaw  Garden Peas / Diced Carrots Mashed / Baby Potato  Fruit Sponge & Custard	Roast of the Day, Stuffing & Gravy - Or - Roast Butternut Squash, Penne Pasta and Tomato & Pesto Sauce  Fresh Vegetables in Season Mashed Potato / Oven Roast Potato  Fresh Fruit Salad & Yoghurt	Beef Burger / Bean Burger in Bap with Onions - Or - - Mac & Cheese  Corn on the Cob / Pasta Salad Chipped Potato / Mashed Potato  Ice-Cream & Two Fruits

PS Spring Summer 24 North Locality 1p&C

MILK, WATER, BREAD &  
FRESH FRUIT AVAILABLE DAILY

IF YOU NEED ANY INFORMATION ON ALLERGENS OR HAVE SPECIAL  
DIETARY REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR SCHOOL ACCORDINGLY

MENU SUBJECT TO  
PRODUCT AVAILABILITY