

Newsletter – April 2018

Welcome to our April Newsletter! This marks the beginning of Term 3. It's a long term compared to previous years so there will be lots going on. We have First Communion for our Primary 4 pupils, our Primary 7 residential, Sports Days, school trips etc. It's a real bumper newsheet this week so please take time over the Easter break to have a read at what is happening across the month. On behalf of our whole school community I would like to wish you a happy Easter break. See you all on Monday 9th April.

Pauline Fleming

On Your Bike!

It's that time of year again! Time to dust off the cobwebs and get out and about on your bike!

Cycling is a perfect way to stay active as a family, however we must remember the importance of road safety.

During Term Three, our Primary Seven pupils will be given the opportunity to take part in the Cycling Proficiency Scheme. This scheme aims to teach children how to ride their bicycles safely. Lessons (theoretical and practical) will be offered as an after-school activity and children must be able to bring their bike to school. The children will be awarded with a certificate of competence after continuous assessment and a final test. Application/consent forms, with the relevant dates, will be sent home at the beginning of Term Three.



House News!

The house of the term is **Hennessy**. Well done. From April we will be awarding House of the month so that children can gain achievement and recognition for their hard work on a monthly basis.

Sporting Success!

Congratulations to the P5 Gaelic football team on their recent tournament win. The team had wins against St Colman's and St Aloysius to secure the shield at Kirkwoods playing fields. The team showed great team spirit, coming from behind at half-time against St Aloysius to claim the tournament win. Many thanks to St Patrick's GAC for organising and hosting the tournament. The team really enjoyed being presented with their medals and the shield.



Athletics

Congratulations to three of our P7 children, Jack McMahon, Ray Brady and Mia Law, who recently competed in the final of the regional indoor athletics event. Unsurprisingly, Ray was selected to go forward to the next round as part of the final Lisburn and Castlereagh sprint relay team. This team is made up of the fastest boy sprinters from all schools across the Lisburn and Castlereagh Council. Mia finished second in both the chest push and standing long jump, whilst Jack finished second overall in the speed jump. A fantastic achievement this year again at the indoor athletics, we will keep you posted about Ray's progress in the regional finals.



Cross Country

17 children took part last week in the annual Cross Country event held at the Billy Neill Soccer Centre and all completed the 1.3km Cross Country Course successfully. Anna Broderick was the first girl home, finishing 8th overall, whilst Jack McMahon was our first boy across the line, finishing 8th overall. Eve Watson also finished in the top 25 in the girls' race and so all three children will go forward to the next round, where they will compete against children from other councils. A warm congratulations to all our runners.



'Being the best that we can be'

Mrs Hanna's class have just embarked on an exciting new initiative: The News REAL Quad Blogging Project

Schools work in groups of four from local cluster groups and Shared Education projects. Each school will produce an article or blog of their choosing ...so keep a look out for our blog on the NEWSDESK! (Fronter)

How does it work?

On week 1, the Lead school (Dunmurry PS) upload their blog on the School Reporter section of the Newsdesk - as a Headline or Front Page report for partner schools to read, discuss and post comments.

On weeks 2, 3 and 4 the process rotates, until each school has produced one article and commented on the other three. When the cycle is finished, teachers can review what the class has learned from the experience and decide to (a) go again, with class working in groups to choose topic, research, write and edit reports, (b) ask another year group to take it on - or if they all agree, (c) end the project and encourage pupils to create their own individual articles and comments for the Newsdesk as part of daily or weekly classroom practice.

We have already begun to comment on the first blog which was a report on a trip to Radar!

Holidays and School Closures in Term 3

May Day Bank Holidays

School will be closed on both May bank holidays on **Monday 7 May 2018** and **Monday 28 May 2018**.

Summer Holidays

School will close for summer holidays on **Friday 29 June 2018**

Creative Voices.

Children have been very excited and working hard to produce beautiful artwork for you. We hope to exhibit it all in June in a special exhibition. Watch this space, we 'll keep you posted.

After School Activities - Rescheduled Dates

Due to a number of factors many clubs have been unable to fulfil the full amount of sessions scheduled for Term 2. Therefore, the weeks beginning Monday 9th April and Monday 16th April will act as 'catch-up' weeks to allow these missed sessions to be made up. **Any Term 2 replacement dates in April will not interfere with scheduled sessions for clubs in Term 3.**

Please see below for a full list of the replacement dates

Monday - 9th and 16th April

Spanish(P1-P3)/French(P4-7) and Art with Ms Gorman

Tuesday - 10th April

Hurling/Camogie and Labrats Science Detectives

Wednesday - 11th and 18th April

Monkeynastix and Art with Ms Rasa

Thursday - 12th April

Miniversity

Thursday - 12th and 19th April

Soccer

Friday 13th April

Gaelic, Go Media, Children's Music Academy and Gardening Club

Term 3 clubs will begin on Monday 23rd April. The registration morning for Term 3 will take place on **Thursday 12th April at 8.15am in the school hall**. Not all clubs require registration on this morning (some can be registered for online/by email) - **all information regarding dates and costs will be emailed before the Easter holidays, please read this carefully**. Children will also be given the chance to re-register for Gaelic, Hurling/Camogie and Coding Club via notes to be sent home next week. Thank you.

After School Activities

'Being the best that we can be'

Attendance and Punctuality

In Term 3 we would like to improve our attendance and punctuality rates across the school.

It is really important that pupils arrive in school on time. Our bell goes at 8.55am. Teachers lead lines in from the playground and pupils are ready to begin work at 9am. If pupils arrive in after this time it is extremely disruptive for the other pupils, the teacher and in fact, the pupil who is late is very embarrassed.

I would encourage parents to ensure that all pupils arrive in school before the 8.55am bell.

If your child arrives after 9am they MUST be signed in at the school reception area. They will be marked as late.

Please help us as we try to improve our attendance and punctuality rates across the school.

TG4

Last year a group of children from Primary Six and Seven were invited to take part in filming for a TG4 programme called 'Beidh Me Ar Ais' - promoting visitor attractions throughout Ireland. The children visited the Ulster Aviation Museum on Halftown Road in Lisburn. The museum is free for all visitors and the children had a fantastic time learning about flight and viewing WW1 and WWII planes.

The programme is now available for viewing on the TG4 website. St Joseph's children are on approximately 25 minutes into the episode.

We are very proud of the children who spoke and performed so well.

Kindness club

Kindness club are participating in "The little yellow duck project", a global initiative highlighting some life changing random acts of kindness. Maybe you will find a little yellow duck to brighten up your day.



Value of the Month

Our "Value of the Month" for APRIL is FORGIVENESS. In this year of the family we should remember to say 'I am sorry' when we need to and to offer forgiveness to others when they are sorry too.

"Forgive others as quickly as you expect God to forgive you" Anon



Cześć,

Next term we are introducing a Language of the Month. We will be teaching pupils a few simple phrases and some of the chosen country's culture.

Next month's language is Polish as we have a polish community in our school.

Dziekuie

Aladdin

We are so excited that our Primary Seven show this year is 'Aladdin'. The show rehearsals are well under way and it is proving to be a superb show. Tickets will be available from the **Island Hall Box Office** from 9th April @ £8 each. Please make sure you buy your tickets early as it is a one night only performance and tickets are sold on a first come first served basis.

Aladdin

'Being the best that we can be'

Shared Education.

As you know Harmony Hill and ourselves work together as part of a shared education project. As a school we have been working on literacy planners for the year in each year group. These have now been completed and this journey has been led by our literacy co-ordinator Mrs Anne Hanna.

In Term 3 we will break down the long term planning into monthly planners. Teachers from our school will continue to work with teachers from Harmony Hill. Our two schools are sharing knowledge skills and resources.

During the 2nd term the Primary Seven pupils from each school met on four occasions to work on the topic of Conflict. All 120 children worked together in the Racquets' Club and took part in drama and dance activities based on Conflict.

On the remaining four days the children:

- Took part in the Trade Game facilitated by Trocaire, Mrs Mc Cambridge and Mrs Bell (Harmony Hill)
- Learned to rap and perform 'Where is the Love' with Mrs O'Hare
- Developed their printing skills and learned about Banksy with Ms Gorman.
- Took part in drama workshops facilitated by Ms Leonard.

The children are now in regular contact with each other through the website 'Schoolgy'. Children are working on the novel 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' and are carrying out shared literacy activities. The children in P7 gained training for this by Mr Anderson (Harmony Hill).

In term three Primary Three children will work together to develop their writing skills. More details to follow.



PTA News:

We are so grateful for the sheer amount of money raised on an annual basis by the PTA along with your full support. We couldn't do without this fundraising.

So far this year the PTA have purchased stationary for each class and most recently two new Clever Touch boards were purchased to replace the Interactive Whiteboards in Mrs Hanna's Primary 6 and Mrs O'Hare's Primary 7 classrooms. The total cost for both boards was **£5,990**. The children are very excited to have this brand new addition in their classrooms and have really enjoyed experimenting with the boards! Look out for photographs soon of the children using the boards on our PTA Facebook page and the school website and twitter.

Throughout the next few years, the PTA aim to replace all the Interactive Whiteboards in the school with new Clever Touch boards. To be able to do this, they are relying on your continued support for future fundraising events.

Future Fundraising Events:

Small Change for a Big Difference Fortnight:

Monday 16th April - Friday 27th April

After the wonderful success of last year's campaign, the PTA have decided to bring back the Small Change for a Big Difference Fortnight this year with an even better prize! The prize for the winning class this year will be a tour of Dominos Pizza in Lisburn with delicious pizzas provided!

During this fortnight each child is encouraged to bring in loose change and throw it in a bucket in their classroom. By the end of the fortnight the class who has collected the most money will win the fantastic prize. Every penny counts!

Fun Run:

The PTA are entering a team into the Lisburn Fun Run this year on **Wednesday 20th June**. If you are interested in taking part with your child please leave your name in to the office or leave a comment on the PTA's Facebook page.

Application Forms will be sent home after Easter with further details. It will be a great community event for St Joseph's so come and join in the fun!

Crazy Hair Day:

Friday 4th May - £1 per child.

Children can come to school on this day in their school uniform but with some sort of crazy hair style! Look out for further details in future Friday Notes.

Fun Day:

Saturday 9th June

Save the date and come and join us for this fun filled day!

'Being the best that we can be'

April 2018 Dates for your Diary!

Mon 9 April March 2018	School reopens after Easter Holidays P5 DR Linen Centre Science Workshop @ 9:30 - 10:45 P5 SG Linen Centre Science Workshop - 10:45 - 12:00 Science. Shared education Development Day: Mrs O'Hare: SUB: Miss McNally Healthy planning session 3pm—4pm
Tues 10 April 2018	YMCA Workshop 1 for P5SG 20.45am - 12.45pm Shared Education Development Day: Miss McAnerney: SUB: Miss McNally PTA Meeting at 7pm
Wed 11 April 2018	Shared Education Development Day: Miss McAnerney: SUB: Miss McNally Shared Education Development Day: Mrs Gartland: SUB: Miss Leonard Mrs Fleming & Mrs O'Hare at Shared Education Meeting P7 at Science Workshop in Linen Centre
Thurs 12 April 2018	8.15am Registration for Term 3 after school activities Shared Education Development Day: Mrs Gartland: SUB: Miss Leonard Awards assembly P3CK at Science workshop in Linen Centre @9.30 P3SC at Science workshop in Linen Centre @ 10.45am
Fri 13 April 2018	Awards assembly P6 Swimming begins P4MC at Science workshop in Linen Centre @9.30 P4BG at Science workshop in Linen Centre @10.45am Mrs Gartland at Lough Moss: Olympic Handball P7 Shared Education Rescheduled Day 4

Mon 16 April 12 2018	PTA Change for Change Fortnight begins today! Shared education Development Day: Miss McAnerney: SUB: Miss McNally Mrs Gartland: PQH Graduation Ceremony Numeracy: Collegiate book Discussion at 3pm
Tues 17 April 2018	Ms Kitt at Shared Education Professional Development Course: SUB: Miss McNally
Wed 18 April 2018	P4 Breaking of Bread Service at 11am in the school assembly hall Miss McAnerney at Shared Education Professional Development course: Miss McNally
Thurs 19 April 2018	Miss McAnerney at Shared Education Professional Development Course: Ms Gorman: P2 Art Day
Fri 20 April 2018	P6 at swimming
Mon 23 April 2018	After school activities begin for term 3 Pollinators Workshop for P5 Google Classroom Training for teaching staff 3pm - 5pm
Tues 24 April 2018	YMCA P5 Shared Ed Project with Largymore PS trip
Wed 25 April 2018	Mrs McCambridge at Shared Education Professional Development course: Ms Gorman
Thurs 26 April 2018	Mrs McCambridge at Shared Education Professional Development course: Ms Gorman
Fri 27 April 2018	P6 at swimming

'Being the best that we can be'

February 2018 Award Winners

Primary 1

Value of the Month: Honesty	Killian Curran Hollie Moran
Pope Francis Award	Corey Grimley Liam English
Writer of the Month	Ella McDermott Oran Kearney
ICT Whizz of the Month	Abbie Brady Bronagh Bradley
Mathlete of the Month	Holly McCann Matthew McConville

Primary 2

Value of the Month: Honesty	Kacper Graczew Orlaith Doherty
Pope Francis Award	Eve Jeffrey Nicola Zabicka
Writer of the Month	Daisy O'Brien Emma Lappin
ICT Whizz of the Month	Charlie Neill Maram Tarab
Mathlete of the Month	Dylan Johnston Nicholas Badoi

Primary 3

Value of the Month: Honesty	Molly Richardson Eva Toman
Pope Francis Award	Charlotte Vance Olivia McDonnell
Writer of the Month	Ciara Wilkinson Tony Kelly
ICT Whizz of the Month	Zachary Neeson Finagh Rowlands Eve Trimble Una Smyth
Mathlete of the Month	Ethan McKeown Caleb English

Primary 4

Value of the Month: Honesty	Sophie Mateer Ben Jeffrey
Pope Francis Award	Charlie Carleton Ella Valentine
Writer of the Month	Shea Scott Isaac Lagan
ICT Whizz of the Month	Ronan Southwell Dara Gorman
Mathlete of the Month	Wojciech Tunkiewicz Ben Jeffrey

Primary 5

Value of the Month: Honesty	Rosie Skates Kieran Marsden
Pope Francis Award	Lucas Larmour Jonah Dunlop
Writer of the Month	Charlie Wilson Ava McGlade
ICT Whizz of the Month	Neala Dobbin Aidan Sloan
Mathlete of the Month	Imogen Murray Anna McDonnell

Primary 6

Value of the Month: Honesty	Hollie McGuigan McFall Dheekshaa Vivekananth
Pope Francis Award	Eric Dowds Lily-Rose McPolin
Writer of the Month	Yzabelle Pacia Katie Longley
ICT Whizz of the Month	Kiera McLorinan Ben Donaghy
Mathlete of the Month	Yzabelle Pacia Rebecca English

Primary 7

Value of the Month: Honesty	Kaelan Smyth Aoife Doherty
Pope Francis Award	Beth Healy Mia Law
Writer of the Month	Aoife Moran Lucy McKibbin Ronald Mathew Grace Mulholland Cillian Quinn
ICT Whizz of the Month	Shay Pryce McClure Eve Watson Eoin Ryan
Mathlete of the Month	Ryan Walker Eve Watson

Mathletics Class Winners:

Miss Clarke with 99,090 points

Mrs Gartland with 70,570

Congratulations to our Gold Certificate

Winners:

Megan Mateer, Samuel Bowman, Evan Toman, Shea Mallon, Cian Mallon, Imogen Murray and Grace Feenan