

Newsletter – January 2018

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all. I hope you had a lovely Christmas and we wish all of you the very best for 2018.

The new year allows us to take stock and look forward. In St. Joseph’s we are looking forward to the new term and to continuing our established school improvement journey as well as the learning journey of every child in our school.

Pauline Fleming

Celebration of the Sacraments for Primary 3, Primary 4 and Primary 7

We are looking forward to celebrating the sacraments of First Confession, First Communion and Confirmation with our Primary 3, Primary 4 and Primary 7 pupils.

Primary 3: First Confession

First Confession will take place on **Wednesday 21 March at 10.45am** in St. Patrick’s Chapel.

In preparation for receiving this sacrament parents are invited to come along to a **Commitment Service on Thursday 1 March at 11am**. This will take place in the school assembly hall and teachers will share important details about First Confession with you then.

Primary 4: First Communion

First Communion takes place on Saturday 12 May at 10am in St. Patrick’s Chapel. Primary 4 will prepare for receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist by participating in a ‘Breaking of Bread’ Service on Wednesday 18 April at 11am in the school assembly hall. Parents are invited along to this service and teachers will share important information about First Communion Day as well.

Primary 7: Confirmation

Confirmation for Primary 7 pupils will take place on **Friday 9 March at 11am in St. Patrick’s Chapel**.

In preparation for making their Confirmation parents are invited to our ‘Service of Light’ on Tuesday 27 February at 7pm. Important information about Confirmation will be shared with parents then.

Primary 1 Enrolment for September 2018

Parents are reminded that the closing date for applications for **Primary 1 enrolment in September 2018 is this Wednesday 10 January at 12noon**. Application forms along with birth certificates must be handed into the school office before this time, otherwise they will be treated as late applications.

Sporting Activities

Primary 3 have 2 more sessions at tennis this term to make up for missed sessions last term. These will take place on Wednesday 10 and Wednesday 17 January.

Primary 5 begin tennis on Wednesday 24 January and will have 6 sessions. These sessions cost £2 each so £12 for all 6 which can be paid in full.

Primary 6 begin badminton at Lisburn Racquets’ Club on Friday 12 January. They will have 8 sessions in all and the cost of each session is £2 so £16 in total.

Primary 7 begin swimming. The cost of each session is £2.20 so all 10 sessions cost £22. It would be very helpful if the £22 could be paid in full at the start of January.

Parents are reminded that girls must wear a one piece swimming costume.

Due to time constraints it is not possible for pupils to have a shower after swimming and the use of aerosols is strictly prohibited.

Pupils can wear their school PE Kit to school on these days but I would remind you that the PE kit consists of plain navy bottoms or the school PE trousers. Other trousers with stripes, logos etc are NOT permitted.

A big thank you!

As you know our annual fundraising culminated in the handing over of £3400 to a number of charities at our annual Carol Concert in December. Thank you so much to all of our families who have supported our charity fundraising across the year.

We sent a cheque for £1000 to Clic Sargent, Bristol to support Charlie’s charity. Charlie’s family were absolutely delighted. Clic Sargent has been a real support to them as they have been able to stay in a Clic Flat with a lovely garden close to Charlie in the hospital. When Charlie gets out of hospital this flat will be safe and free from bugs and infections as he continues his recovery.

Clíodhna, Fintan, Charlie and Nancy would like to thank you all for your support during this time and would ask you to keep Charlie in your thoughts and prayers in the weeks ahead.

'Being the best that we can be'

Shared Education with Harmony Hill Primary School

We are delighted to begin a new Shared Education project with Harmony Hill this term. Both schools will be working on shared Literacy resources with Primary 7 and Primary 3 pupils working together later in the year.

Mrs O'Hare and Mrs Hanna will be working with Harmony Hill teachers in the week beginning Monday 15 January so we will have further details to share with you then.

Post-Inspection Update

Our school improvement journey continues this term with staff training in Mathematics and ICT.

In December Miss Clarke our mathematics coordinator carried out pupil voice sessions with representative pupils from each class. These sessions were based on word problems which we have been developing this year. She carried out word problems with the pupils and was able to video their approaches to a variety of word problems. All in all, she was very pleased with the pupil understanding of the variety of word problems and their approaches to solving these.

Jill Garland our district ETI inspector will visit the school this Thursday to carry out joint lesson observations with Mrs Hanna, our Literacy Coordinator. This is another step in the journey towards our follow-up ETI inspection which will happen at some point either this term or early in the second term. As a whole school community we are very much looking forward to having our follow-up ETI inspection.

Holidays and School Closures for 2018

Mid-Term Break

School will close for mid-term on **from Monday 12 February until Monday 19 February inclusive**. We will open for pupils again on **Tuesday 20 February**.

St. Patrick's Day

The school will be closed for St. Patrick's bank Holiday on **Monday 19 March**.

Easter 2018

Easter falls early this year and the school will close on Holy Thursday 29 March for the Easter break. Term 3 will begin on Monday 9 April 2018.

Assessment for Learning

As part of our on-going school improvement journey teachers have been trialling a variety of ways of 'marking for improvement.' Marking for improvement is marking pupils' work effectively so that they can make improvements to that particular piece and to future work. We have agreed to use the technique of 'yellow box marking' to develop marking for improvement in Literacy and Numeracy this term.

Teachers will highlight aspects of work that can be improved in a yellow box and pupils will have the opportunity to improve these.

As part of our commitment to improved communications with you as parents we will be using the SeeSaw app to share examples of 'yellow box' marking with you in the month of January. Look out for these!

Value of the Month

Our "Value of the Month" for January is DILIGENCE. This is an extremely suitable value for January as it encourages us to stick at something be it a new year's resolution, our school work etc. Teachers will be looking out for pupils who have shown diligence in school life and have made sure they have been able to see a task through to the end.

*"Stick to your task till it sticks to you;
Beginners are many, but enders are few"*

Anon

LEPRA

This term we have decided to support the charity 'LEPRA.' This is often an overlooked cause and today's children don't always have an understanding of how leprosy affects children and young people.

Martina Smith, a representative from LEPRA will be presenting an assembly for all pupils on Friday 26 January and then then providing a fun workout for pupils on Friday 9 February. Pupils can wear their PE gear to school on this day.

The school will make a charitable donation to LEPRA from the 2018 charity donations.

Hive Hackers!

We are delighted to be involved in this unique programme along with Price Waterhouse Coopers. The programme is an 8 week ICT and digital coding programme which will be delivered to two classes here in school: P7 Mrs McCambridge and P6 Mr Gallagher. Mrs McCambridge and Mr Gallagher will then disseminate the training to the other P6 and P7 classes.

PWC staff will deliver the 8 week programme starting this Friday 12 January, culminating in a special awards ceremony in PWC, Belfast on 12 March. We'll keep you updated via Twitter and Seesaw!

‘Being the best that we can be’

January 2018 Dates for your Diary!

Mon 8 January 2018	School Development Day for staff School closed for pupils		P7 at swimming P6 at badminton
Tues 9 January 2018	School opens for pupils 10am Catholic Trustee Support Service meeting	Mon 22 January 2018	Literacy classroom observations carried out by Mrs Anne Hanna in all classes Refresher Week in P3 – P7 P4 Mrs Gould’s class at Lisburn Library: Please bring along your library card 3pm Alana Willis CCMS Education Adviser: Management training Board of Governor Meeting at 6pm
Wed 10 January 2018	Closing date for Primary 1 applications for September 2018 at 12noon P3 at tennis	Tues 23 January 2018	Literacy classroom observations carried out by Mrs Anne Hanna in all classes Refresher Week in P3 – P7 Mrs Fleming at CCEA Pottery begins for: P2 Miss Beatty P5 Mr Reid P4 – P7 Healthy Planning Session from 2.15pm – 4pm Mrs Gartland: PE and Active Lifestyles Development Day: SUB TBC
Thurs 11 January 2018	Awards Assembly District Inspector Ms Jill Garland carrying out joint lesson observations in Literacy with Mrs Anne Hanna (Literacy Coordinator) P3 Ms Kitt’s class at Lisburn’s Linen Museum from 9.30am – 1pm: Pupils require a packed lunch.	Wed 24 January 2018	Literacy classroom observations carried out by Mrs Anne Hanna in all classes Refresher Week in P3 – P7 P1 – P3 Healthy Planning Session from 2.15pm – 4pm P5 tennis begins
Fri 12 January 2018	Awards Assembly P7 swimming begins at Lisburn Leisureplex P6 Badminton begins in Lisburn Racquets’ Club P3 Miss Clarke’s class at Lisburn’s Linen Museum from 9.30am – 1pm: Pupils require a packed lunch.	Thurs 25 January 2018	Refresher Week in P3 – P7 Digital Leader Assembly P6 at Linen Museum for Linen Workshop and tour 9.30am – 1pm. Pupils need to bring a packed lunch
Mon 15 January 2018	8 weekly assessment weeks for Primary 3 – Primary 7 Year group newsletters out to parents After school activities begin this week for Term 2 P4 Mrs Connolly’s class at a ‘Flight Workshop’ in Lisburn Linen Museum from 9.30am until 12noon. P4 Mrs Gould’s class at Lisburn Library: Please bring along your library card Fundamentals begins for P2: pupils should wear their PE gear CEFR/C2K Assessment Training for all staff Shared Education Day with Harmony Hill Primary School: Mrs O’Hare: SUB Sandra McKeown Mrs Hanna: SUB TBC	Fri 26 January 2018	Refresher Week in P3 – P7 LEPRA Assembly P1 – P4 at 9.30am and P5 – P7 at 10am P6 at badminton P7 at swimming
Tues 16 January 2018	8 weekly assessment weeks for Primary 3 – Primary 7 Pottery at Island Arts Centre for P2 Miss McAnerney and P5 Mrs Gartland P4 Mrs Gould’s class at a ‘Flight Workshop’ in Lisburn Linen Museum from 9.30am until 12noon. Shared Education Day with Harmony Hill Primary School: Mrs O’Hare: SUB Sandra McKeown Mrs Hanna: SUB TBC P4 – P7 Healthy Planning Session from 2.15pm – 4pm	Monday 29 January 2018	Catholic Schools’ Week Foundation Stage Number and problem Solving Workshop for parents of Primary 1 and 2 pupils at 6pm P4 Mrs Gould’s class at Lisburn Library: Please bring along your library card Mrs Fleming: Primary 7 Transfer Interviews
Wed 17 January 2018	8 weekly assessment weeks for Primary 3 – Primary 7 P3 at tennis P1 – P3 Healthy Planning Session from 2.15pm – 4pm Welcome Anna Whyte on work experience Shared Education Day with Harmony Hill Primary School: Mrs O’Hare: SUB Sandra McKeown Mrs Hanna: SUB TBC P2 Miss McAnerney at Fairy tales Workshop in Lisburn Linen Museum from 9.30am – 11am: pupils need to bring a shoebox along	Tuesday 30 January 2018	Catholic Schools’ Week P4 – P7 celebrate Catholic Schools’ Week with Mass in St. Patrick’s Chapel at 10am Primary 7 Mrs O’Hare’s class at Lisburn Linen Museum for bridges Workshop from 9.30am – 12.30pm Mrs Fleming: Primary 7 Transfer Interviews
Thurs 18 January 2018	8 weekly assessment weeks for Primary 3 – Primary 7 Welcome Anna Whyte on work experience Shared Education Day with Harmony Hill Primary School: Mrs O’Hare: SUB Sandra McKeown Mrs Mc Cambridge: SUB TBC P2 Miss Beatty at Fairy tales Workshop in Lisburn Linen Museum from 9.30am – 11am: pupils need to bring a shoebox along	Wednesday 31 January 2018	Catholic Schools’ Week Mrs Fleming: Primary 7 Transfer Interviews P5 at tennis Primary 7 Mrs McCambridge’s class at Lisburn Linen Museum for bridges Workshop from 9.30am – 12.30pm
Fri 19 January 2018	8 weekly assessment weeks for Primary 3 – Primary 7 Welcome Anna Whyte on work experience Shared Education Day with Harmony Hill Primary School: Mrs O’Hare: SUB Sandra McKeown	Thursday 1 February 2018	Catholic Schools’ Week Primary 2 Miss Beatty’s Parent Assembly at 9.30am Mrs Fleming: Primary 7 Transfer Interviews
		Friday 2 February 2018	Catholic Schools’ Week P5 Mr Reid’s Parent Assembly at 9.30am P6 at Badminton P7 at swimming Olympic handball Day 2 with representatives from P6 and Mrs Gartland at Lough Moss Centre Mrs Fleming: Primary 7 Transfer Interviews

‘Being the best that we can be’

November 2017 Award Winners

Primary 1

Value of the Month: RESPONSIBILITY	Nora Quinn Jude Herbert-Fox
Pope Francis Award	Ronin Carleton Bronagh Bradley
Writer of the Month	Rudi Heaney Grace Lynch
ICT Whizz of the Month	Matthew McConville Oran Kearney
Mathlete of the Month	Holly McCann Tomasz Figlus

Primary 2

Value of the Month: RESPONSIBILITY	Ellie Sloan Lucy Wright
Pope Francis Award	Aaron Patton Annie Richardson
Writer of the Month	James Steele Olivia Fitzsimons
ICT Whizz of the Month	Masa Najib Matthew Coulter
Mathlete of the Month	Sam Bowman Nicholas Badoi

Primary 3

Value of the Month: RESPONSIBILITY	Ieva Braskute Molly McKenna
Pope Francis Award	Sarah Abraham Tony Kelly
Writer of the Month	Jamie Ratcliffe Rose Magee
ICT Whizz of the Month	Sebastian Morrison Martin Quinn
Mathlete of the Month	Ethan McKeown Caleb English

Primary 4

Value of the Month: RESPONSIBILITY	Riley Brady Orla Gallagher-Turtle
Pope Francis Award	Ellie Campbell Rosie Wright
Writer of the Month	James Maloret Dara Gorman
ICT Whizz of the Month	Wojciech Tunkiewicz Eimear Rafferty
Mathlete of the Month	Cara Cardwell Michael Ratcliffe

Primary 5

Value of the Month: RESPONSIBILITY	Dean Brady Roisin Quinn
Pope Francis Award	Imogen Murray Ciara McCann
Writer of the Month	Rory McCann Mia Rooney
ICT Whizz of the Month	Oran Lynch Maria McLorinan
Mathlete of the Month	James Wilkinson Lola Hunter

Primary 6

Value of the Month: RESPONSIBILITY	Tadgh McMaster Sarah Joseph
Pope Francis Award	Pia Dunlop Ugne Rebzdyte
Writer of the Month	Daniel McNamara Etain Lavery
ICT Whizz of the Month	Sophie Jennings Dheekshaa Vivekananth
Mathlete of the Month	Yzabelle Pacia Rebecca English

Primary 7

Value of the Month: RESPONSIBILITY	Ronal Mathew Matthew mcGuinness Grace Mulholland
Pope Francis Award	Charlie Dooley- McLaughlin Privia Saji
Writer of the Month	Lucy McKibbin Niamh Wilkinson
ICT Whizz of the Month	Katie Hunter Caitlin Finlay Eoin Ryan
Mathlete of the Month	Katie Hunter Sinead Pye

Mathletics Class Awards

Congratulations to Miss Clarke’s class (117,620 points) and Mrs Gartland’s class (96 430 points) who won the class awards for Mathletics in Key Stage 1 and 2

Mathletics Gold Awards

Congratulations to the following pupils who have achieved ‘Gold Awards’ in Mathletics in November:

Maria McLorinan, Kiera McLorinan, Erin Mallon, Matthew Sloane, Sophie Mateer, Nicolas Badoi, Benjamin Jeffrey
Ethan McKeown, Jack McCann and Andrew McLorinan

‘Being the best that we can be’