



St. Joseph's Primary School
42 Castle Street
Lisburn
BT274XE

'Being the best that we can be'

Friday Note

Friday 13th March 2020

No. 22

Letter from Mr Eamonn Broderick, Chair of Governors

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the Board of Governors we would like to advise that Mr Murray has been successful in a recruitment process for the Principal Post at St Mary's Primary School Newcastle. The school community will be sad to see Mr Murray leave especially so soon since taking up post in September; we are grateful for his supportive leadership; and wish him well in his new posting. We are liaising with Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS) to commence a recruitment process as a matter of urgency. The Governors are mindful of the need to have continuity, consistency, stability and high standards in the delivery of teaching and learning for all of the pupils at St Josephs as much as possible and to keep any disruption to a minimum. Mr Murray will continue in his post until the end of the school year; we are committed to providing the best educational outcomes for your children who attend the school and look forward to your continued support during this time.

Yours Faithfully,

Mr Eamonn Broderick
Chair of Governors

P7 Spring Fair

Congratulations and thank you to every P7 pupil for their contributions to our 'Spring Fair'. We had fresh popcorn, chocolate fountains, pick 'n' mix, lots of delicious buns, guess the footballers & teachers, guess 'what's in the box', basketball, bottle flipping, second hand books, tuck shops and raffles with lots of prizes - everyone was so generous! Well done P7 - you were fantastic and even left a tidy hall at the end! We raised £685.33 which is amazing!

P6 Transfer Information Meeting

We plan to hold a transfer process information meeting for parents of Primary 6 children on Monday 30th March at 6pm in the school assembly hall. The purpose of the meeting is to outline the transfer process as well as the Primary 7 year ahead. If you are considering entering your child for GL Assessments and/or AQE, we will provide you with all the information you need to begin the registration process which opens in May 2020. There will also be an opportunity for you to ask questions as well. As there will be a lot of information shared at this meeting, it is important that one parent attends. We look forward to seeing you then.

Special Olympics

We were delighted to have had Amy and Adam (Special Olympics Ireland Organiser and Olympic Athlete) and Andrew Watson (Torch Run Committee) in school on Wednesday 11th March informing the P4 – P7 children of the work of the Special Olympics and how we as a school we can support them. We were so lucky to be selected as one of two schools, along with our Shared Education partners Harmony Hill, to assist in the procession of the Special Olympics torch through the city of Lisburn that was due to take place on Thursday 19th March. However, the decision was taken by the organising committee to postpone the Special Olympics until Term 1 in the next school year. This is due to the health and safety needs of the participating athletes, many of whom have underlying medical conditions in light of the anticipated spread of the Coronavirus. In the new school year, the current P6 classes will assist in the torch procession that carries the Olympic torch through the city of Lisburn. This promises to be an excellent opportunity for St. Joseph's Primary School which I'm sure the children and staff will enjoy. I would like to say a special thanks to the organising committee and wish Adam and his fellow athletes the very best of luck throughout the games.



Shared Education

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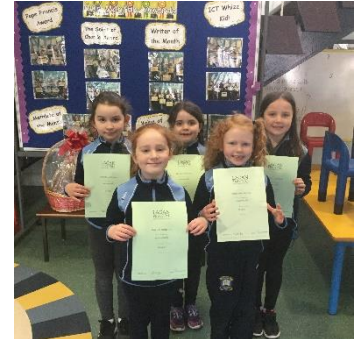
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Lagan Speech and Drama Festival



Congratulations to all of our participants in the Lagan Speech and Drama Festival. The children learned their poems in a very short space of time and performed these at the festival in 'The Beechlawm Hotel'. Well done to our participants and winners Rose Magee (1st place), Emma Lappin (1st place), Aoife Breslin (3rd place), Mia Rooney (3rd place), Olivia Feenan (3rd place), Lara Gribbon, Andrew Mc Lorinan, Roisin Quinn, Nora Quinn, Erin Mallon, Madison Ward, Sam Bowman (all highly commended), Olivia Ferris, Nancy Craig, Mya Jennings, Ella



McDermott and Charlotte Feenan. Well done everyone!

The British Transplant Games

The British Transplant Games (BTG) have been staged annually since 1978 in 17 host cities across the UK. The BTG aim to demonstrate the benefits of transplantation, encouraging transplant patients to regain fitness, whilst increasing public awareness of the need for more people to join the NHS Organ Donation Register and discuss their wishes with their families. They also seek to thank and celebrate donor families and the gift of life. Lucyellen had a transplant in 2014, when she was 7 months old. This year will be Lucyellen's third year participating in the BTG, which will be held in Coventry. There are already over 1000 people, who have received a lifesaving transplant, registered to compete in the BTG in July. Participants are expected to fundraise as the games receive no central funding. Lucyellen is so excited to see her friends and make new ones, while competing in the BTG. Thank you to everyone for supporting Lucyellen. The amount of £420, raised from our 'wear red' day on the 14th February, will be presented to Lucyellen and her family.



Fundraising for Children's Cancer Unit Charity

Well done to Nancy, Emma and Olivia for holding two fundraising days making lots of crafts, origami and refreshments for people to enjoy. This was entirely their own initiative. I am very proud to say the girls raised an amazing total of £470.39 which was presented to help the sterling work of the Children's Cancer Unit. *(Missing from the photograph is Emma).*

Catering Menu Alteration

Please be advised that the dinners scheduled for Wednesday 18th March will be changed to fish fingers, oven baked diced potatoes with beans or pasta carbonara. Both dishes will be served with a fresh fruit smoothie or fresh fruit. Please remember to book, using schoolmoney, by midnight on Tuesday 17th March for weekly dinners.

Class Assemblies for Term 2 and Term 3

Please note that parents/guardians are invited to class assemblies. Assemblies will begin promptly at 9.15am.

P6 – Mrs Fleming
P6 – Mrs Gartland
P1 – Mrs Mc Manus
P1 – Miss Hearty

Friday 27th March
Friday 3rd April
Thursday 7th May
Thursday 21st May



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The week ahead: **Week beginning Monday 16th March 2020**

Monday 16 th	Tuesday 17 th	Wednesday 18 th	Thursday 19 th	Friday 20 th
School Closed – Staff Development Day.	School closed for St. Patrick's Day.	Violin tuition. Mrs Connolly completing annual reviews. Teresa Twene teaching P4. Pottery sessions in the Island Arts Centre for P1 (TH) from 9.15 – 10.45am and P7 (EMcC) from 10.45 – 12.15pm. P6 tennis coaching at Wallace Park. German and Spanish for P6 pupils with The Wallace High School students.	Violin tuition. Mr Murray attending a course. Mrs Connolly completing annual reviews. Teresa Twene teaching P4. Mrs Mc Cambridge and Ms T Gorman attending training. Elena Smyth to teach P7. Special Olympics Day from 10am to 12 noon.	Mr Murray attending a course. Mrs Mc Cambridge and Ms T Gorman attending training. Elena Smyth to teach P7. Teresa Twene teaching P2 (SC) today. P4 Badminton coaching. P7 swimming.

Term 2 & Term 3 Holidays

Staff Development Day
St. Patrick's Day
Easter Holidays

Friday 8th May
Monday 11th May
Monday 25th May

Monday 16th March.
Tuesday 17th March.
Friday 10th April to Friday 17th April. School reopens on 20/04/2020.
First May Day Bank Holiday.
School Development Day.
Second May Bank Holiday.



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Advanced Notice of Approved Holiday List 2020 – 2021*

Term One

Wednesday 26th August
Monday 31st August
Friday 25th September
Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October
Tuesday 8th December
Tuesday 22nd December
Wednesday 23rd December – Wednesday 6th January

Pupils return to school. P1 children will be staggered in
School Closed – August Bank Holiday
School Development Day
Halloween Mid-Term Break
Holy Day – Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Early Closure for Christmas Holidays
Christmas Holidays

Term Two (2021)

Thursday 7th January
Monday 15th – Friday 19th February
Wednesday 17th March
Thursday 18th March
Thursday 1st April
Friday 2nd April – Friday 9th April

All Pupils return to School
February Midterm Break
Closed in lieu of St. Patrick's Day
School Development Day
Early Closure for Easter Holidays
Easter Holidays

Term Three

Monday 12th April
Monday 3rd May
Monday 31st May – Wednesday 2nd June
Wednesday 30th June

All Pupils return to School
May Day Bank Holiday
May/June Mid-Term Break
Early Closure for Summer Holidays

**Information correct at the time of publication. May be subject to change.*



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