



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

'Being the best that we can be'

Friday Note

Friday 6th March 2020

No. 22

Personal Update

I wish to inform the school community that I was recently successful in an application to become principal of a school in my home town of Newcastle that has strong family connections for me. This has not been an easy decision to make and I trust, in time, you will understand that it was the only school that I would have ever left St. Joseph's for.

The Governors of the school will soon begin the process to select a new principal. I will continue to fully apply myself to my role until I move to Newcastle. I will also inform parents of this date and any interim arrangements that may be put in place when I receive them from the Governors.

Looking back.....

P3 Commitment Service

We are so proud of our Primary 3 pupils as they made their commitments to make their first Confession here in school yesterday. It was a beautiful service and reminded us all of the importance of showing love in all aspects of our lives. Thank you so much to the pupils who were very reverent and prayerful throughout the service. Thank you parents for coming along and supporting your child and thank you to Fr Darren who led the service. Thank you to Miss Clarke, Mrs Gould, Miss Dowds and Mrs Hunter for preparing the children so well. We are all looking forward to First Confession Day on Thursday 26 March.

P4 Evacuee Day

My goodness....we were transported back in time to World War 2 yesterday as our Primary 4 pupils came to school dressed as evacuees. Their WW2 topic really came to life as they made parsnip jam, learned some great 1940's dances, wrote letters as evacuees and even had to get into their classroom via an Anderson Shelter. What fun and active learning! Thank you to Mrs Connolly, Mrs Hanna, Miss Patterson, Mr Gartland and Miss Jordan for inspiring the pupils in this way.

World Book Day

We celebrated World Book Day yesterday with a lovely range of activities to inspire pupils to read. Pupils still have the chance to access our VLE on World Book day via FRONTER on their homepage. There are lots of fantastic links there to help encourage a love for reading. Thank you for all your extreme reading photos – they look amazing! We understand that some of you may like to dress up as part of World Book day but our motto is ...if it costs more to buy a costume for World Book day than it does to buy a book, then we are completely missing the purpose of World Book Day. Don't forget to let your child spend their World Book Day token in Easons, Waterstones, Tesco's, Sainsburys etc.

Boys Gaelic Football Tournament

Congratulations to the 11 boys who took part in the Carragher Cup on Wednesday at Davitts GAC. The boys beat St. Oliver Plunkett PS 1-4 to 1-1 and St. Claire's PS 3-11 to 0-2. In the 3rd match, they lost to Christ The Redeemer 0-3 to 3-2. Well done to all the boys who played well on the day.

Looking ahead.....

P6 Transfer Information Meeting

We will be holding 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.

Reporting to Parents

P1 – P6 teachers will be reporting to parents during the week beginning Monday 9th March. School will close at the normal times of 2pm and 3pm. We will have one late night to report to parents on Monday 9th March and school will be closed to pupils on Friday 13th March to facilitate additional meetings.

There will be **NO AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES** that week. Homework club and Cool Kids club will remain unaffected.



**Shared
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Special Olympics

We are delighted to have been chosen to take part in a Special Olympics Procession on Thursday 19 March. Our Primary 7 pupils along with their P7 friends in Harmony Hill Primary School will process with some of the Northern Ireland Special Olympians from Harmony Hill PS to our school where they will enjoy an assembly with the Olympian and have the chance to ask questions etc. This is such a privilege to be involved and we are delighted that Mr Watson (Ella Rose's Dad) has asked us to participate. We'll keep you posted with further details.

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.

Class	Date
P6 – Mrs Fleming	Friday 27 th March
P6 – Mrs Gartland	Friday 3 rd April
P1 – Mrs Mc Manus	Thursday 7 th May
P1 – Miss Hearty	Thursday 21 st May

Term 2 Holidays

Pupil Reporting
Staff Development Day
St. Patrick's Day
Easter Holidays

Friday 13th March.
Monday 16th March.
Tuesday 17th March.
School closes early on Holy Thursday 9 April School reopens on Monday 20 April 2020

The week ahead: **Week beginning Monday 9th March 2020**

Monday 9 th	Tuesday 10 th	Wednesday 11 th	Thursday 12 th	Friday 13 th
<p>No after schools activity clubs this week.</p> <p>Reporting to parents from 3pm. School will be open until 6pm for reports.</p>	<p>No after schools activity clubs this week.</p> <p>Clarinet tuition (8.30 – 10.45am). Flute tuition (8.30 – 10.30am.) Cheque presentation of £435 to Lucy Ellen and her family. P7 Spring Fair in Hall. Reporting to parents from 3pm.</p>	<p>No after schools activity clubs this week.</p> <p>Violin tuition. Special Olympics Assembly for P4 – P7 at 10am 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. PTA Wear Green for St Patrick's Day (£1 Donation). Reporting to parents from 3pm.</p>	<p>No after schools activity clubs this week.</p> <p>Violin tuition. P4 - P7 Mass for St Patrick's and St Joseph's Day at 10am in St. Patrick's Church Reporting to parents from 3pm.</p>	<p>School closed to pupils. Reporting to parents from 9am.</p>

It's lovely to see that the Spring has finally sprung with some lovely days this week and we can see the mornings and evenings getting brighter as well!
Have a lovely weekend.
Best wishes,

Pauline



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