



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

'Being the best that we can be'

Friday Note

Friday 8th May 2020

No. 27

First Holy Communion:

As you are aware, the First Holy Communion service for our Primary 4 children has had to be postponed this year due to the circumstances with Covid-19. To mark the special occasion for Primary 4, Fr Dermot will offer Mass on Saturday 16th May at 10am for our Primary 4 children and their families. This Mass will be broadcast on the Parish Webcam, so we would encourage the children to tune in and celebrate Mass together on this special day. To view the Parish webcam, click on the following link <http://parishoflisburn.org/> and choose the Live Webcam tab at the top.

Update on each Year group

P7

Well done to the P7 pupils who have finished their class novel 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' - you can see our trailers for the movie on Twitter. Also, look out for Callum Agnew's Lego animation on our school website under Home Learning. Amazing work going on from so many P7 children with past pupils and younger brothers and sisters involved their drama projects. There is so much creative work being submitted within our art section and some very impressive projects submitted to our World Around Us area. We continue to use Google Classroom, which is what a lot of post primary schools use, so it's great that the children will have experience of this online forum. We are posting work on Twitter for you all to see the talent we have here in St. Joseph's - ranging from drama, art, geography, history, animation, literacy ... the list goes on. Well done Primary 7.

P6

Primary 6 continue to work really hard at home. They are all enjoying completing their independent Titanic project and Mrs Gartland and Mrs Fleming are really enjoying seeing their project updates via Seesaw. Many of them have purchased some Titanic related books to help them with their research and this is great to see. They are delighted to have a day off today as a break from their routine. Mrs Gartland and Mrs Fleming wish them all a very happy and safe bank holiday weekend.

P5

This week in Primary Five the children have been introduced to decimals, with the help of explanation videos and a guide sheet. They have responded extremely well and we are so pleased that they are taking the time over their corrections and learning from their mistakes. They have been enjoying novel work and writing using Pobble 365. We have been learning our prayer of the month and creating May altars. We love to see any photos you send us!

P4

Mrs Connolly and Mrs Hanna are really pleased with the super work going on in P4. The children have been working really hard on their English skills work. They have been identifying adverbs and conjunctions as well as developing their reading fluency. The voice recording tool on the class journal has been great as the children can read aloud a passage or deliver a presentation! In maths, the children have been busy working on time and this week we have been focusing on the 6 times tables! They are being very creative and are clearly enjoying their topic on Minibeasts! This would have been a very special time for the children in school as we would have been busy with preparations for the First Holy Communion next week, so we will be thinking of our Primary Four families during this time.

P3

It has been another really busy week of Home Learning in Primary 3. The children have continued to enjoy their 'Weather' topic and have been completing lots of Literacy tasks related to the theme. This week they have been learning all about clouds and made their own rain clouds in a jar as part of their STEM task - super work! In maths the children have been learning about multiplication as repeated addition and have been practically working out the answers to different calculations. They now know their 2 and 10 times tables too - well done! Miss Clarke and Mrs Gould continue to upload



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work to Fronter and set tasks on the children's Class SeeSaw Journals. This is a brilliant way to communicate and interact with each other and it is great to see the super responses of the children. We love to see all the photos and videos of the fantastic work that the children are doing, so please keep sending them to us! Well done P3 - we are so proud of you all!

P2

P2 having been working hard on their topic of animals in the wild. We have received some fantastic pictures, videos and writing all about animals. It has also been wonderful to hear the children blending their new sounds and reading the words very clearly. They have also been listening to, sequencing and writing about animal stories. Children have also been doing fantastic measuring in their gardens and they have also recorded their measuring through Seesaw. Well done P2. We look forward to seeing some lovely pictures of your May Altars.

P1

Primary One have completed another successful week of home learning! They have been exploring more about their topic 'Spring and the Farm' and had great fun reading the popular Martin Wadell book, 'Farmer Duck'. The boys and girls continue to develop their core Literacy and Numeracy skills, practicing their key words, constructing simple sentences and learning their number stories. Mrs McManus and Miss Hearty love to see updates on See Saw and the highlight of this week has been the wonderful (and sometimes tricky!) farm animal puzzles. Check them out on our Twitter newsfeed...can you work out what animal the children are describing? Thank you Primary One and your parents for your brilliant work and dedication this week!

Creative Voices

Ms Gorman has been sending out resources via Seesaw and the website. If you need to access them go to the website, Menu, Classes, Home Learning, Creative Voices. In these stressful times all pupils might find materials there to help them cope. If other pupils want to access the see saw resources, we can arrange that too. Let your teacher know and Ms Gorman will add you.

AQE Updates

Registration Update – Registration Delayed Until Thursday 14th May 2020

In the continuing uncertainty caused by Covid-19, AQE is endeavouring to provide clarity to P6 pupils and parents about the arrangements for the tests which are scheduled to take place during the next academic year. AQE's first priority in planning for the assessments is the health and wellbeing of the pupils and staff involved. Registration for parents of P6 children who will sit the AQE assessments in the Autumn was due to open on Wednesday 29th April 2020.

We continue to have discussions with key stakeholders to ensure that the best possible provision is made for applicants and, to facilitate these discussions, **registration will now open on Thursday 14th May.**

There has been no change to how registration will operate, following on from our communication at the end of last week; however, there are a few things that we should perhaps clarify;

1. Downloadable and paper versions of the registration form are not available at the moment as we have no access to the office and therefore cannot receive them by post. However, we do intend to make these available when government restrictions are eased to allow us to facilitate both online and postal registrations.
2. Photographs for the registration form can be taken at home by parents but should meet the basic criteria (a clear image, taken from the shoulders up, cropped to passport size and no larger than 9MB).
3. Documentation to be uploaded (birth certificates / passports / FSM confirmation) should be scanned rather than photographed to ensure the full document is included, without anything else in the background and that the information on the document is legible.

PPTC 2020-21 Update

PPTC has been working closely with its Entrance Assessment provider, GL Assessment, to find ways to best support pupils who will transfer to post-primary schools in 2021 and their parents. Discussions have centred on three main areas:



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1 Delaying the Assessment Date

We are working to establish if the Entrance Assessment can be delayed from mid-November 2020. This would provide all pupils with valuable additional P7 time before being assessed.

2 Delaying and extending the Registration Period

We are looking at delaying the start date for parents to register their children to sit the Entrance Assessment from mid-May to provide more time before registration decisions need to be made. We are also looking at extending the Registration deadline from mid-September 2020 to provide additional registration time when pupils are in P7.

3 Making the Entrance Assessment as accessible as possible for pupils

We are exploring different ways to take account of the current disruption to pupils' schooling, in order to help them achieve their full potential when sitting the Entrance Assessment.

PPTC will make specific information public through this website as soon we are in a position to do so. The "Information for Parents" section will subsequently be updated to include the full "2020-21 Registration Pack".



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