



FEBRUARY/MARCH 2023

NEWSLETTER ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

**Dates for the diary**

**First Confessions**

**First confessions** 28<sup>th</sup> February 11 a.m. Our Lady of Lourdes Moneyglass.

**P4 Girls Gaelic**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March in Randalstown.

**World Book Day**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

**P6 Swimming**

Every Thursday from 2<sup>nd</sup> March

**Do This in Memory Mass**

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March P4 children and their families.

**P2/3 Shared Education Trip**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March Fun Factory Ballymena

**Confirmation Practice**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March in Our Lady of Lourdes Moneyglass school choir and P7

**P4 Hurling**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March

**Author Visit**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March. Tim Bailie

**P1 Shared Education Trip**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March to Portrush

**Cumann na mBunscol Quiz**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 1:15 p.m.

**Confirmation**

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March Our Lady of Lourdes at 2p.m. P7 and school choir.

**P1 Mother's Day Celebration**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March

**P6 Shared Education trip**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March to Dream Space.

**St. Patrick's Day Concert.**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March.

**St Patrick's Day holiday**

Sch closes at 11:30 am Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March. T

Sch closed Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

**World Maths Day**

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

**Dogs Trust Assembly**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March.

**Friends of Millquarter PTA Easter Treasure Hunt and Bake Sale.**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 1p.m.

**Term 2:2 Takes Off**

Welcome back to Term 2:2. I hope that you had a lovely Mid Term break and enjoyed some family time together. February has already been very busy and there are many events planned in March. Please use the family app on seesaw to see important messages and announcements.

While Mrs McNamee is off the Governors have appointed me Acting Principal and Mr McPeake, Acting Senior Teacher. Thank you to all the support you have afforded to us. Mrs D. Storey

**Change to Morning Routine**

From **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March** we would ask that all P3-7 remain in the school playground in the mornings to play until class begins. They will be supervised by members of staff from 8:30 a.m. When the bell rings at 8:45 am all classes from P4- 7 should line up and will be walked to class by their teachers. On wet days the children should go straight to their class.

P1-2 children should go to their classrooms as normal but please enter via the side gate in the playground and walk within the marked cones. They may be accompanied by an adult if needed.

**Friends of Millquarter PTA**

A new committee has been elected and they are already working tirelessly to secure additional funds to support the learning experiences of all our children. They will be in touch soon about upcoming events. All parents are welcome to attend meetings to help in whatever way you can.

**Library Van Visit**

The Library Van will visit school on 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> March. Any child who has not yet joined can request an application form from the school office. They will then receive a library card which can be used at any library.

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### Shared Education

Well done to our Shared Education Choir who sang beautifully at the CASE Celebration Event at Queen's University Belfast.

There are several Shared Education trips planned before the end of March before Shared Education funding comes to a permanent end.

Our children and staff have greatly benefited from our partnership with Groggan P.S. We have been able to secure much needed resources; receive excellent staff training and share wonderful learning opportunities together.

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### After School Clubs

Together with the Friends of Millquarter PTA we hope to begin After Schools Clubs in Term Three.

### Credit Union Art Competition

Well done to our Three Primary Seven pupils for their success in the Moyola and Toome Credit Union Art competition.

### Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day was on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February. All classes had lessons on how to stay safe online. Our digital leaders led an excellent assembly and Primary Seven took part in a Gamcare workshop with our friends from Groggan Primary School.

### Half Time Games

Well done to four of our Primary Seven pupils for representing Millquarter during half time in the Antrim v Fermanagh Senior football game on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

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### Dogs

Please ensure that dogs do not enter the school grounds at any time.

### World Maths Day

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

### World Book Day

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. We would ask that children come dressed in their Pyjamas and bring along their favourite bedtime story. There will be an assembly in the morning where the teachers will share their favourite bedtime stories.

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### Late class

	<u>Mar</u>
<u>Cost</u>	<u>£42</u>

Please pay via school money app.

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### GL Results

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February some of our Primary Sevens received their GL Assessment results. Well done to all those involved. Primary Sevens have now chosen their post primary schools and we wish them every success in getting their first choice

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### South West Antrim Cumann na mBunscol

#### Gaelfast Coaching Days

P4 Boys attended on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February and had a great day.

P4 Girls football: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March in Randalstown indoor hall

P4 Hurling: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March in Dunloy.

P4 Camogie: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March in Randalstown indoor hall

Cumann na mBunscoil Quiz is Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

P7 blitzes in April, May and June.

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### Sacraments

First Confessions will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> February at 11 a.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes Moneyglass. The children should wear their full school uniform and accompany their parents to the chapel that morning. They do not return to school.

Confirmation will take place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March in Our Lady of Lourdes at 2p.m. The children should wear their full school uniform. They do not attend school that day.

First Holy Communion for P4 is on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 11:00 a.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes Moneyglass.

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### Catholic Schools Week

Thanks to all the children and teachers for their hard work during Catholic Schools week. The theme was Walking together in Faith and Love and the children produced some lovely pieces of work. P2 ended the week with an excellent assembly with their Grandparents.

### St. Brigid's Day

Thank you to everyone in our school community who came along to pass on the tradition of cross making with our pupils. It was a very enjoyable and well attended afternoon.

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### St Patrick's Day Concert

Each class will showcase their talents to celebrate St Patrick's Day on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March. The children may accessorize their uniforms with something green. School closes at 11:30 a.m. **There will be no bus at this time**

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### P1 Mother's Day Celebration

Primary One warmly invite all their mothers into school on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March. More details will be shared via seesaw. In the event that, a mammy cannot attend we welcome another family member.

# OPERATION ENCOMPASS

In every force. In every school. For every child.

Dear Parents,

I am writing to update you about our school's participation in Operation Encompass. Operation Encompass is an early intervention partnership between Police and Schools. It is aimed at supporting children who are victims of domestic violence.

Operation Encompass is already established across all of England and Wales and is now coming to the North of Ireland. It is a very simple idea, but one that will help us to support and protect vulnerable children. When the Police attend an incident of domestic violence where one of our pupils is present, they will inform the school's Designated Teacher for Child Protection at the start of the next school day. This information is shared in strict confidence and school staff are only told on a need-to-know basis.

Following any notification from the PSNI, our staff will provide immediate support to any child who has been the victim of domestic abuse. We know that when children do witness domestic abuse at home, this is a highly traumatic experience for them. By taking part in Operation Encompass, we can provide tailored and compassionate support to our pupils, in line with our school ethos. This builds on our existing commitment to child safeguarding.

Should you wish to find out more information, please contact the school's Designated Teacher for Child Protection **Mrs Storey** or **Mrs Devlin** Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection.

Alternatively you can read more about Operation Encompass at [www.operationencompass.org](http://www.operationencompass.org).