

St Kevin's
Primary School

TERM ONE NEWSLETTER

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of Term One, I would like to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and involvement in our school community. Your dedication to your children's education and our school has made a significant difference in creating a positive and enriching environment for all our students.

This term has been filled with exciting learning experiences, and it has been wonderful to see our students grow academically and socially. Whether it was through attending parent-teacher meetings, volunteering for school events, or simply encouraging your children at home, you have played a vital role in their success.

As we look forward to the festive season, I wish you and your families a lovely Christmas filled with joy, laughter, and precious moments together. May this break bring you peace and happiness.

I am also excited to introduce our first school newsletter of the year, produced by Mr. Keogh. In this edition, you will find a snapshot of school events from Term One, including highlights from classroom activities, special events, and achievements from our students. This newsletter, and future newsletters, will be available on the school website. We hope you enjoy reading about all the wonderful things happening at St Kevin's.

Thank you once again for your support. I look forward to continuing our partnership in the new year. Please remember that school returns for all pupils on January 6th.

Warm regards,

Mrs. O'Doherty

Acting Principal



FUNDRAISING IN ST KEVIN'S



This term at St. Kevin's, we embarked on a series of ambitious fundraising events to support fantastic charities and raise vital funds for our school.

On September 15th, we celebrated our annual Jeans for Genes Day, where we raised an impressive £610 for a wonderful charity dedicated to helping children with genetic disorders.

Following that, on September 27th, we held our very first Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. We were truly overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community. Thanks to the many buns and cakes donated, as well as the fantastic turnout of parents, grandparents, friends, and family, we raised a grand total of £1,262 for this important cause.

In October, the Halloween Dress Up event, along with donations from signing passport forms, allowed us to present NI Hospice with a cheque for £477.

Then, in November, we organised a collection at ASDA to raise money for school funds. Thanks to the kindness of our parents and the wider West Belfast community, we raised £323. We are very grateful to ASDA for providing us with this fundraising opportunity and look forward to collaborating with them again in the future.

Our Christmas Jumper Day was another highlight, raising £400 for St. Vincent DePaul, a charity that helps those in need in our communities.

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our parents and carers for your incredible generosity and support. Together, we are making a significant impact in our community and beyond!





FOUNDATION AUTUMN WALK

In October, our children in Primary One and Two, along with their teachers and assistants went on a lovely autumnal walk in the Falls Park. The weather was dry and mild and they all enjoyed their day out!



SPORTING SUCCESS



Our girls and boys' soccer teams have experienced great success this term in football, and both teams have reached their respective finals. A big thanks to Coach James for his time and dedication with our children.



TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS



Our boys and girls have been very busy practising their times tables and in October they took part in a Tables Tournament, Ireland Rocks. Based on our total scores, we came 6th in Ireland, 3rd in Northern Ireland and 1st in Belfast. What an achievement! A total of 2,370 pupils took part in Belfast and 10 of our pupils featured in the Top 50 with 3 pupils taking places in the Top 10! Keep rocking, St Kevin's



OLIVER IN ST DOMINIC'S

In October, the girls in Primary 7 were delighted to be invited to St. Dominic's to watch the school's production of Oliver. As we were learning about life in Victorian Times, this really painted an accurate picture for the girls. The talent on display was nothing short of amazing and we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves!



ACCELERATED READER



Congratulations to all the children in Key Stage 2 for reading over 4500 books and 14 million words so far this year, with 140 children hitting their reading target! What an unbelievable achievement. Miss Bradley's class won the award for most words read as a class, they were treated to some tasty donuts! Well done boys and girls! Watch this space for some really exciting news in January regarding new AR prizes for hitting your target! Remember boys and girls, reading is the key to success!

HALLOWEEN FUN IN ST KEVIN'S

Halloween was a blast in St Kevin's! Our children had so much fun dressing up as many spooky characters!





THE LOFT

Well done to all the boys and girls who have attended The Loft with Mr. Lennon this term. They had lots of fun chatting, chilling out and playing games. Mr. Lennon remains undefeated in table tennis however!! A massive thank you to Sainsbury's in The Kennedy Centre for their continued support in supplying weekly food and treats for the children.



NURTURE

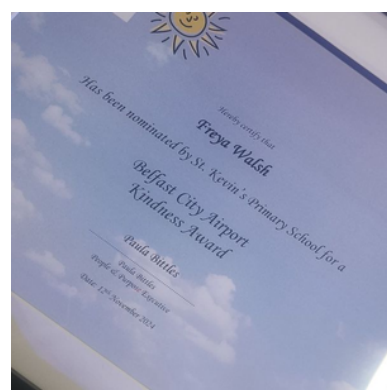
Santa's little helpers have been very busy in the Nurture Room (The Snug) on the run up to Christmas. They have been working hard to develop their social and communication skills and progressing well with their literacy and Numeracy. Some children from KS1 and KS2 have enjoyed taking part in Social Group activities in the afternoons.

We would like to thank Foodstock for supplying children in The Snug with snack each day. Mrs Toman and Mrs Lavery are very proud of all the children who have attended The Snug this term.



KINDNESS AWARD

Congratulations to Freya in Primary 7 who was nominated by our school for a Kindness Award from Belfast City Airport. Freya got to go to the airport in November and collect her award. We are so proud of you Freya. You are a wonderful role model for the younger children in St Kevin's.



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON

Well done to the children from various West Belfast schools who turned on the Christmas lights in Belfast City Airport in late November. The children even met a very special visitor! St Kevin's was brilliantly represented by Mark Rainey in Primary One!



SUPPORT FOR KEVIN SINFIELD

In December, Kevin Sinfield ran seven marathons in seven days to raise money for Motor Neuron Disease and in honour of his ex-Leeds teammate Rob Burrow, who died from the disease earlier this year. As Kevin ran past our school, our children cheered him on, and in true St Kevin's style, showed him great support. In seven days, Kevin raised £1.2 million pounds.



DANNIE AT DE LA SALLE

Also in December, the Primary 7 boys were invited to De La Salle College to watch their children's performance of 'Dannie The Musical'. The boys performed brilliantly and it was especially fantastic to see past pupil, Anthony Lagan, performing on stage! When Anthony was in St Kevin's he stole the show with his performance in Matilda. Well done, Anthony!





CHRISTMAS IN ST KEVIN'S



X FACTOR IN PRIMARY 7

As always, the Primary 7 children put on an amazing show for the school and their parents earlier this week! There were many standout performances and the children are most definitely creating core memories in their last year at St. Kevin's.

CAROL SERVICE

Our annual Carol Services took place in St John's Church earlier this month. The Primary 5 children performed The Nativity, while children from Primary 1 to 7 each sang a Christmas carol. The church was packed to the rafters and the children performed beautifully.



CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

The school hall was filled with many happy parents, grandparents and friends this week as the children from Primary 1 to 4 performed in their Christmas Concert. The Christmas Cheer was in abundance as the children sang and performed their hearts out!



KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Feast of the Epiphany – Monday, 6th January
School Mass at 10am in St John's . **P2's will join.**

Grandparents' Day – Wednesday, 22nd January

Service of Light- Wednesday, 5th February

Mid-Term Break- February 10th-14th inclusive

Love for Life **Parent Workshop** for P6 and P7–
Thursday, 13th March at 1.30pm

Green Day- Friday, 14th March

St Patrick's day – Monday, 17th March

Confirmation - Friday, 21st March

First Confession- Wednesday, 9th April (**to be confirmed**)

Easter – 18th – 25th April inclusive

Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi Mhaise Daoibh
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

