

The latest updates, information and stories from Edenderry, delivered straight to you via the Edenderry App!

THE EDENDERRY ECHO

Welcome to the second spring term edition of the Edenderry Echo, our digital newsletter delivered straight to your phone, laptop or tablet! We hope you find it interesting and informative.

WORLD BOOK DAY – 5th March 2026

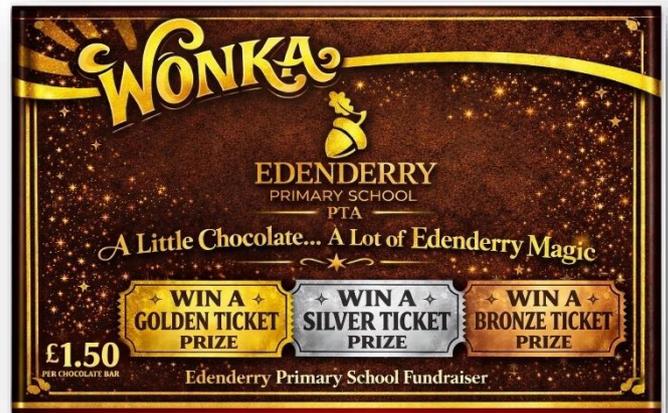
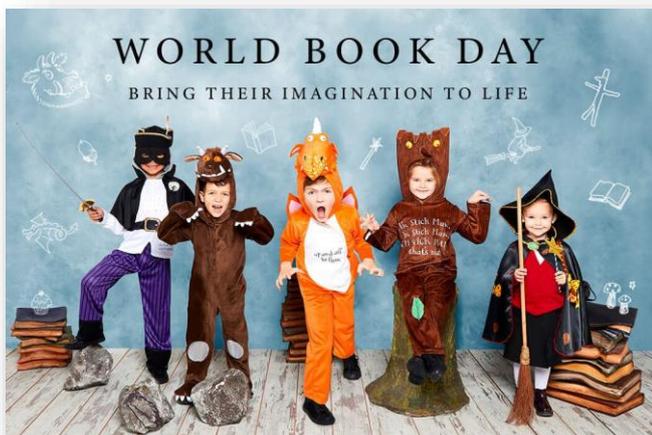
World Book Day exists to encourage pupils to read for pleasure, and based on research evidence this is best supported by:

- being read to regularly;
- access to books at home;
- the ability to choose what they want to read;
- having trusted adults and peers sharing and recommending books;
- the reading experience being enjoyable; and
- having a designated time to read.

This year, we are particularly excited as we build up to World Book Day because we are dressing up and we have unique Edenderry PTA Wonka Bars on sale throughout the week.

During the past two years, we have chosen not to add the pressure of dressing children, however, in the last Echo, we gave you early notice that, to further add to the PTA activity, this year we will be encouraging the children to dress up as their favourite character from a book.

Adding to the fun, PTA Wonka bars, costing £1.50 will be on sale throughout the week beginning Monday 2nd March to Friday 6th March with a number of gold, silver and bronze tickets hidden inside.

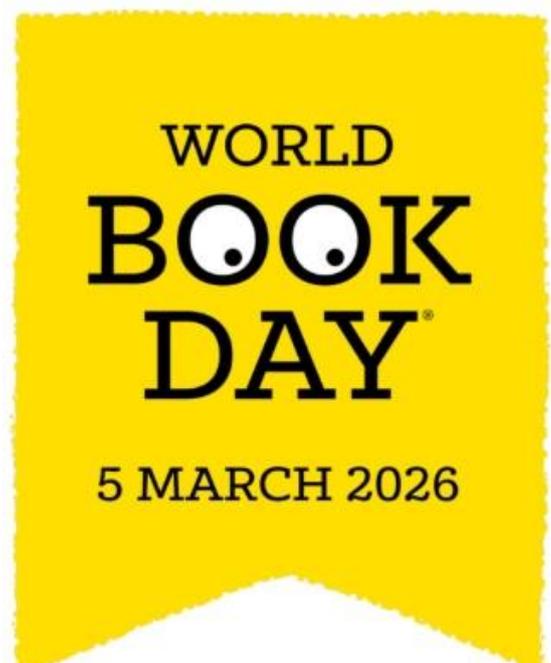


PRIZES AVAILABLE

Golden ticket winners will receive valuable Toymaster Vouchers, silver ticket winners will join Mr Blevins for a Hot Chocolate party with the principal in the staffroom and bronze ticket winners will be able to choose their prize from a variety of books.

THANK YOU

All money raised by the PTA will go towards their fundraising for a new set of class iPads, so everyone's a winner! A very special thank you to our fabulous PTA for helping us to celebrate World Book Day in such a special way.



NEW SPECIALIST PROVISION CLASSROOMS

The installation of our new Specialist Provision for Social and Communication (SPSC) classrooms is almost complete and we hope to move in as soon as possible after the Easter holidays. Our start will be dictated by not just completion, but also the arrival of the necessary furniture and resources, the relocation of any existing SPSC resources and the installation of new resources in both new classrooms. We are provisionally targeting late April or early May as the time our current children will move to their new room.

We are stressing, however, that this is a provisional date, and very dependent of issues far beyond our control.

We will also of course need to spend some time preparing the children for this move and we will also want to give the relevant parents an opportunity to visit and view our rooms before the children make the move.

We will keep all relevant parents advised about the specific details as we move towards opening.



ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS

The school will be administering our annual PTE and PTM assessments throughout April and May. These assessments are important, and because of the structured schedule, we cannot guarantee that any missed tests can be rescheduled. We kindly ask parents to avoid taking children out of school during this period wherever possible. Thank you.

CAR PARK THANK YOU

We want to extend a huge thank you for the significant improvements we've seen in the school car park. As a school, we have received countless messages of appreciation for the efforts being made to enhance safety during our busy arrival and collection times.

We are truly grateful that you have taken the time to read our guidance and are working so hard to adjust long-standing habits. These changes have greatly improved safety in the car park and have also helped vehicles enter and exit the site without obstruction.

Please continue to persevere with us—together, we can ensure that our site remains safe for everyone. Thank you.

MONTHLY AWARDS

You will find the winners of class awards during January and February on the school website. Here is a reminder of what we are focusing on during March.

Month	Pastoral	Curriculum
March	Good Manners	Digital Skills/ICT

The children have really enjoyed our recent celebration assemblies and finding out who winners are. Please continue to chat to your child at home about these awards and encourage them to strive to achieve one. Please also acknowledge any awards won and celebrate with them if they are one of the monthly recipients.

NEW PLAYGROUND ACTIVITIES

After much consideration and the purchase of some new resources, our new Edenderry staff playground team has designed a very exciting new programme of lunchtime activities to really improve the play options for our P3 to P7 children. Amongst other things, this programme includes basketball hoops, skipping ropes, football, hopscotch, and a quiet reading area. These activities will be rolled out over the next few weeks, now that the contractor is almost finished on site.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We have an increasingly packed schedule over the next number of weeks and months. Here are just some of the key dates for your diary.

2-6 March	PTA Wonka Bars for sale
5 March	World Book Day
11 March	P7 Multi-cultural Event
16th March	Staff Development Day (no pupils)
17 March	St Patrick's Day Holiday
30 March	P7 CPR Training Day
1 April	Final day of term (early finish)
2 – 14 April	Easter Holidays
15 April	Staff Development Day (no pupils)
16 April	First day of summer term
4 May	Bank Holiday
5 May	Staff Development (no pupils)
13-15 May	P7 Residential to Glasgow
19 May	KJHS Assessment (P7)
25 May	Bank Holiday
26 May	Staff Development Day (no pupils)
2 June	P1 to P4 Sports Morning
9 June	P5 to P7 Sports Morning
25 June	PTA Summer Fair
29 June	Final Day of Term for P1 to P6
30 June	Leavers' Assembly and Coffee Morning

EDENDERRY SPORTS NEWS

Read the latest Edenderry sports news here and on the school website at Edenderry.org

GIRLS' HOCKEY

Our girls' hockey team have reached a busy stage in the school hockey calendar and recently took part in the NI qualifying tournament hosted by Ulster Hockey.

We faced Seagoe, Millington, Moyallon and Bocombra, winning all but one group game. A strong Bocombra side gave us our only defeat, but great teamwork saw us progress to the semi-finals.

In the semi-final, we met Armstrong. The girls showed real grit and determination and although the result didn't go our way, it was a performance to be proud of.

Our final match was against Kings Park. An early goal put us under pressure, but the girls battled hard, created chances and produced an exciting end-to-end game. Kings Park added a late second, but our girls fought right to the final whistle.

We now look forward to our upcoming league games and the Mid-Ulster tournament, where we hope the girls can build on their excellent performances so far.

BOYS' HOCKEY

Continuing a busy season for our boys' hockey team, the squad recently travelled to Lurgan College to compete in the Ulster Hockey Northern Ireland Qualifier Tournament. The boys took on strong opposition from Hardy Memorial, Bocombra, Maralin and Kingspark in a highly competitive series of matches.

Throughout the tournament, the team worked incredibly hard and demonstrated fantastic defensive skills in every game. Their organisation, tackling and teamwork made them tough opponents and a real credit to the school.

For some of our boys, this was their very first competitive hockey match — something you would never have guessed against such experienced opposition. They showed great determination, resilience and composure throughout.

We now look forward to our remaining league division games this season.

BOYS' FOOTBALL

During February, our Five-a-side footballers represented Edenderry in fine fashion at the local Mid-Ulster School Five-a-side tournament hosted at the Football Warehouse.

The boys delivered performances for the whole school community to be proud of, displaying good technical ability, scoring some fantastic goals, working hard for each other as a team and exhibiting our trademark Edenderry grit, resilience and pride in wearing the shirt.

Results included:

1-0 Win vs Richmount

3-2 Win vs Presentation

0-0 Draw vs Moyallon

1-0 Win vs Orchard County

1-2 Defeat vs Kings Park - Goal: Daniel

Our footballers continue to develop and progress, learning how to play as a team and growing in confidence with every performance.

We are already looking forward to the next tournament! Well done boys - we are very proud of you!

GIRLS' TAG RUGBY

We were also extremely proud of the girls who recently took part in a tag rugby event hosted by PRFC, especially those who had never played rugby before. Every single player represented the school impeccably, demonstrating fantastic attitude, determination and true sportswomanship throughout the day. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow with every match and to watch them support and encourage one another as a team.

Portadown Rugby Football Club would be delighted to welcome any of the girls who are new to rugby along to their training sessions on Tuesday evenings, where they can continue to develop their skills and enjoyment of the game further. We are also looking forward to other girls' rugby events in the coming months!

