Jan-Feb 2024 Newsletter

Living and Learning, Today and Tomorrow



Happy New Year

I hope you had a lovely Christmas holiday with your family and are refreshed and ready for term 2 at school. As a school community, I would like to thank you, again, for your patience and understanding as we deal with the range of illnesses that are prevalent in school and the community.

December was a busy time throughout the school and it was fantastic to have the return of our Christmas concert with our families and audiences. The children in P1 to P3 excelled in their roles and thoroughly enjoyed entertaining us all. The Concert highlights are available to view on the school website.

The school choir had a very busy December singing at the Carolfest and our local sheltered residential providers.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the SVP Giving Tree Appeal and shared cards and gifts throughout the school community.

We look forward to the rest of the school year with great anticipation and by working together, we will continue to provide fantastic learning opportunities for every child.

<u>CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK Celebrations</u> Sunday 21st January to Saturday 27th January.

As a school, community, and parish, we will celebrate Catholic Schools Week with a range of school-based activities and attend Mass on Tuesday 23rd to celebrate Grandparents Day. We will contemplate our schools as communities of service.

MONDAY 22 nd	Service in Our Community of Friends
TUESDAY 23rd	Service in Our School Community (Grandparents Day) Parents and grandparents are most welcome to attend 9:30am Mass to celebrate.
WEDNESDAY 24 th THURSDAY 25 th	Service in Our Family Community Service in Our Local Community

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Primary 3 to Primary 7

BUG CLUB READING Challenge

Bug Club / Principals Award certificates for every child who completes all their reading challenges for Term 2

<u>BUG CLUB</u> Login Issues - Please ensure that you are logging with Microsoft Chrome or Edge - Do not use Internet Explorer!

Parent Teacher Meetings P1 - P6 year groups

- ♣ Face to face PTMs will take place w/b 5th February.
- School will close at 1:45pm (P1-3) & 2:00pm (P4 -7) each day that week, for all pupils.
- Teacher-led clubs will not operate that week <u>BUT all other clubs will</u> operate as normal, including Kids Club.
- Appointment times will be arranged around consecutive meetings for families with siblings in school.
- Your appointment time and day will be sent home on Friday 19th January.

Post-Primary P7 Placement Decisions and Applications

After all the P7's pupils hard work in preparation and taking on the transfer tests, the baton is now firmly being passed onto P7 parents.

P7 results will be available online from 8am on Saturday 27th January. You will be able to log onto the SEAG account to view your child's outcome. Please ensure you have your account details at hand!

The Application process is completed online via the EA portal for post-primary applications. I will send a power point presentation about the process in due course.

Parent & Principal Options Meeting

Parents are advised to avail of the opportunity to discuss post-primary placement options for September 2024 and complete the application process (although this does not have to be completed on first meeting if required).

Parent & Principal meetings will take place from Tuesday 30th January to Friday 9th February, with any follow up meetings from Monday 19th - Wed 21st February.

The closing date for online applications is **Thursday 22nd February**.

P1 Applications September 2024

P1 Open Morning

Wednesday 17th @ 9:30 - 10:45 am

Please visit the school website www.stpatricksholywood.com for the information about P1 admissions, there is a video, power point and information tab available. Our Open day will give parents an opportunity to experience our caring ethos, curriculum provision and school facilities.

Link - <u>https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions/primary-admissions-</u> <u>guide</u>

Date	Activity
Tuesday 9 January 2024 – at 12 noon	EA Connect opens for online applications for Primary 1.
Friday 26 January 2024 – at 12 noon	EA Connect closes for online applications for Primary 1.
Wednesday 31 January 2024 – by 4pm	Deadline for submitting verification/supporting documents via EA Connect. Final date for late paper applications.
Thursday 25 April 2024	Parents/carers will receive application outcomes via email (where one is held) or by letter.



Car Parking and accessing school grounds before and

after the school day

Please kindly note the following procedures, pedestrian access is by the Ean Hill and Church View gates only. Access via the main gate is for vehicle access only and anyone accessing this gate does so at their own risk. Parents should not block this gate or access the car park in their vehicles.

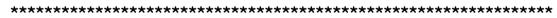
I would ask all school users to remain vigilant with respect to road safety in around the school grounds and the local neighbourhood.

Crossing Patrol Update

The EA lifted the freeze on recruitment for crossing patrol personnel. The post was re advertised but did not garner any interest, it will be readvertised in due course by the EA.



Please note that due to nut allergies in school, snacks and lunches should be nut free.





St Colmcille's Holywood www.stcolmcillesholywood.org

Our P3 Children will celebrate their First Confession on Thursday 7th March at 1pm.

Our P7 Children will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation Thursday $13^{\rm th}$ June, time to be confirmed.

Our P4 Children will celebrate their First Communion on Saturday 15^{th} June at 11.00am.

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After Schools Programme - Term 2A

WEEK DAY	Activity	Venue	Teacher or External Provider	Time	Year Groups	Contribu tion	Places available	Tick to Reserve a place
Monday	Gaelic Games	Hall/ St.Pauls	Mr. Sherlock	3- 3.50pm	P5-7	£5 Per half-term	24	
Monday	Eco- Garden Club **	P6	Miss Mc Keogh	3 to 3.50pm	P5-7	£5 Per half term	20	
Tuesday	Irish Dancing Restarts 10th	Hall	External Denise Catney	2-3pm 3-4pm	P1*-3 P4 -7	Pay directly		
Wed	Orchestra	Hall	Mrs Mc Sorley	This club is by invitation only. Mrs Mc Sorley will contact parents/pupils directly				
Thurs	Cookery Club	Ρ3	Mrs Wilkinson	3- 3.50pm	P4 - P7	£5 Per half term	20	
Thurs	Speech & Drama	Staff Room	Sarah Steen	2- 3pm	P2-3	Pay directly ***		
Thurs	Speech & Drama	Hall	Sarah Steen	3- 4pm	P4-7	Pay directly ***		
Fri	Girls Gaelic	Hall/ St.Pauls	Mr. Sherlock	2:00- 3:00pm	P5-7	£5 Per half term	24	
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			DRAMA: amaramaperfc ok.com/dra	ormingart	<u>s@gmail</u>	.com	S	

**The Eco Club will involve a mixture of indoor and outdoor activities. We will focus on improving our environment, develop projects to make our school more eco friendly, create an art project in our learning space and we will plant and garden in our Outdoor Learning Environment.

Book a place through the school office.

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