

# Principal Update 27.3.24



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Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of Term 2, which is hard to believe and what a busy few weeks we have had. We have particularly enjoyed hosting our St. Patrick's Day celebrations for all stakeholders in our school community. Your continued support towards events like our Lenten campaign, alongside supporting 'Friends Of' fundraising efforts we are eternally grateful for.

Please see attached a few important dates for the final term of the academic year.



**First Holy Communion** – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Confirmation** – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024

**Sports Day** – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – weather permitting

**Assessment week** – Tuesday 7.5.24-Friday 10.5.24 full pupil attendance please.

**Spring Recital** – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May (All pupils performing)

**Newry Feis** – Recorder ensembles (P5/6/7) – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April

**Newry Feis** – school choir – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April.



A huge well done to all our pupils in P4 who were presented with their certificates commending them on receiving their sacrament of First Confession.

Many thanks to Mrs McCooey their class teacher who prepared the pupils for this important event. Special thanks to Fr Woods and Mrs Crawley, our accompanist. Also thank you to Mrs Hamill for all their help in making this day so special.



We hope you enjoyed viewing our summary video of our St. Patrick's Day celebrations, posted on both our school Facebook page and website. It was simply wonderful to celebrate with you all, especially with the wider Parish at Mass and afterwards for the Ceile and Ceol. We want to thank those of you who have provided such lovely feedback and emails, which are greatly appreciated. Such an event could not have taken place without the hard work of our entire staff team. Thank you also to Fr. Woods who officiated the Mass on this day.



**Parents of P3 pupils:**

For the attention of all parents of P3 pupils. Following the Easter break and for the duration of Term 3, all pupils will remain in school until 3.00p.m from Monday to Thursday. Pupils will be dismissed on Friday at 2.00p.m. with pupils from P1 and P2.

**Venue for Confirmation and First Holy Communion:**

We will update you on the final choices of venue for these events following the Easter break. Thank you for emailing Mrs Morrow your preferred choice.

**People who help us:**

In P1 our topic work is on people who help us. As part of this theme we are asking for any donations of children's dressing up clothes, you may no longer need or use e.g. doctor/builder/nurse/vet/farmer. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.



We have successfully completed the 'Big Walk and Wheel' initiative as part of our continued work with Sustrans. The pupils were absolutely fantastic and we were delighted with the support from all who attended this initiative.

Having received feedback from parents and pupils, this is something people would possibly like to sustain going forward. If any parent volunteers are willing to walk pupils each Tuesday and Thursday, we would invite you to please put your expression of interest in an email to:

[cwadsworth679@c2kni.net](mailto:cwadsworth679@c2kni.net)



Congratulations to all our girls and boys who represented our school at the recent Cumann na mBunscol. We are incredibly proud of you all and it was wonderful to hear the feedback about great team work and true sportsmanship. Well done to you all. We are so proud!





Congratulations to all pupils in P6/7 who attended a Basketball blitz in Lisburn Racquet Club, as part of the Cleveland Project. Pupils competed against 14 other schools across the province. Thank you to Kelvin our Basketball coach who has trained all pupils this term.



Congratulations to all our pupils who have attained the Principal's award or word millionaire status throughout this month. Both P4 and P6/7 have received this award, as a whole class group in the last month. It is lovely to celebrate how hard working each pupil has been and to mark those who continue to demonstrate outstanding manners and kindness.

Well done everyone 🙌🙌🙌





Thank you to all our pupils who wore odd socks on 21.3.24 as part of raising awareness for 'World Down Syndrome Day', a cause very close to my heart. It was wonderful to see everyone in their odd socks. Thankyou!

## Trocaire

Working for a just world.

Thank you to everyone in our school community who donated money to Trocaire, as part of our Lenten school campaign. We do still have some money to count, but the last total amounted to an amazing **£450.00** which is simply fantastic.

We hope you enjoyed the summary video of our 'In-House' Bazaar, posted on our school Facebook page and website. Well done to all our winners in each of the activities that took place at our Bazaar.



Friends of St. Joseph + St. James

Congratulations to all those who won prizes from our Easter Raffle, hosted by our 'Friends of St. Joseph and St. James's'. We wish to sincerely thank Mr Frank Watters (former Principal), who planned the Treasure Hunt for everyone to enjoy last Sunday.

An extra special thanks to our 'Friends Of' members who continue to work hard organising events to raise funds. We want to sincerely thank you our parents for the fantastic sum of **£1327.85** raised from the Easter events.





We aim to host our annual Spring Concert/Recital on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**. This will take place in the Parish hall at 7.00p.m where pupils from all classes will be performing. We ask you to save this as an important date in your diary. It promises to be a lovely evening, where we celebrate the wonderful talent of our pupils.

Tickets for this event will be released via Parentpay, following the Easter break. There will be a limit initially of 2 seats per family, with all tickets costing £5 each.

We will notify you when this becomes live on Parentpay.



**TERM 3 After School Clubs**

We hope you availed of the opportunity to book your child(ren) into a new after school club – GLOW which commences after the Easter break. This after school provider requests payment to be made directly to them, please see previous messages issued via our school app.

We ask you to please email Mrs Morrow, so we can compile a register of pupils who wish to attend this club.

<b>Monday</b>	Bee Active 	Independent provider – parents to book directly with the provider. Details to follow.
<b>Tuesday</b>	Irish Dancing for Fun 	'In-house' club payment made via Parent pay
	Transfer Class <b>SEAG</b> Schools' Entrance Assessment Group	'In-house' programme payment made via Parent pay
<b>Wednesday</b>	GLOW 	Independent provider – parents to book directly with the provider.
<b>Thursday</b>	Gaelic 	'In-house' club payment made via Parent pay
<b>Friday</b>	Bee Active 	Independent provider – parents to book directly with the provider. Details to follow.

On behalf of our staff team, can we sincerely thank you for your continued support which is greatly appreciated. Wishing everyone in our school and Parish community a very and blessed Easter break.

*Yours in continued partnership*

*C. Wadsworth and staff of St. Joseph and St. James's P.S.*

