



# Spooky October News!

## Pumpkin Carving Competition!

This year we are also running a Pumpkin Competition. Children and their families can design and carve out pumpkins and some will win prizes.

Entries can be brought to school to be displayed outside for the day on Thursday 26th October and the winners will be announced after the Halloween Party. Please note all pumpkins must be brought home at home time.



## Mathletics—New Avatar System

What's in the new avatar system? To create their new avatars, your child will need to earn Mathletics points. They can earn points by completing Mathletics activities, Skill Quests, or a game of Live Mathletics.

In the new Avatar Maker system, children will also notice a new Mathletics currency called M coins. One point earned in Mathletics converts to one M Coin. These M coins do not reset so your students can keep accumulating them. If your students haven't earned any

coins yet, they'll still be able to create a base avatar. However, earning more coins gives them the ability to choose more backgrounds and features to decorate their characters.

So keep encouraging your children to build their skills in Mathletics and earn more points! Plus, the new Avatar Maker won't disrupt the work you set, as it's limited to a maximum of 10 minutes per student a day.

Mathletics usually costs £5 pounds per child per year. We originally suggested that parents may pay for this. However, we've been lucky enough that a local business has offered to sponsor £4 per child at Glencull. Therefore the cost to parents is £1 per child this year. This represents excellent value for families at Glencull

[https://youtu.be/r\\_0OwhN0j4g](https://youtu.be/r_0OwhN0j4g)

## Mathletics



Please find the £1 payment available on School Money on Monday 10th. P2 will be getting their usernames and passwords over the month of October along with training on how to enjoy the site. Details to follow.

Every class will be partaking in challenging Maths week activities from 14th-22nd October for Irish Maths week.



## Parent Teacher Meetings

These will be held with the option of face to face or via a video conferencing app during the day of Friday 27th Oct— therefore, school is closed for children on 27th Oct. A message will follow shortly about how to set up a time for your face to face meeting or video conference with your child's class teacher.



## Halloween Holidays

Halloween Holidays will be taking place from the Friday 27th Oct until Fri 3rd of Nov inclusive, with children returning to school on Monday 6th of November.

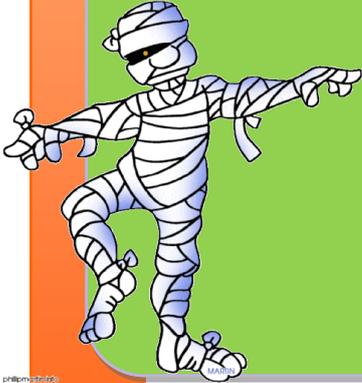
October 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## Music

The EA music service teaches in the tradition of classical music tuition, which involves reading musical score. We offer violin, drums, and flute from P4 up. If your child is interested contact Mr Gormley.

Our other instrumental music service in school, run by Nuala Sweeney, is taught using Irish Traditional (Comhaltas) tuition. The Mrs Sweeney teaches tin whistle. If you play another traditional instrument outside school (banjo, flute, fiddle etc.) she also involves those instruments. This entails using your 'ear' to follow the music with less sight reading. In St Malachy's we advise that going through both types of tuition is best, as it will allow for more enjoyment of the music, and more opportunities for playing, both now and in the future.



## Halloween Party!

This year's Halloween Party will take place in school on Thursday 26th Oct during the school day. The children come to school dressed up for a day of craic and learning activities.

Our new hall's black out blinds and curtains will make a spooky venue for a daytime movie.



## PE Days

Class	Day	Coach
P1-7	Monday	Errigal Coach
P1-7	Friday	Class teacher

## Uniforms

Please ensure that all items of uniform and PE kit are labelled with a name and class to ensure that no pieces of clothing are lost. Please label Glencull Jerseys and club Tyrone school bags. The labels and markings often come off so checking them is a huge help with identifying owners of lost property.

## How to contact a Teacher

The partnership between you, the parents, and teachers is vital for your child's education. Please take any opportunity available to speak to the teacher about your child's progress. The way to reach teachers and the principal is via email or before 9.05 and after 3.15 by phone, we will try our utmost to accommodate your needs. Or ring the office to make an appointment. Only use the school landline number to contact teachers via phone 02885568344. What's Apps will not be answered. *We request that teachers private numbers or other private means of communication are never used to contact teachers regarding school issues.* If you have are not receiving any of the school Whatsapp Broadcasts please contact the school immediately.

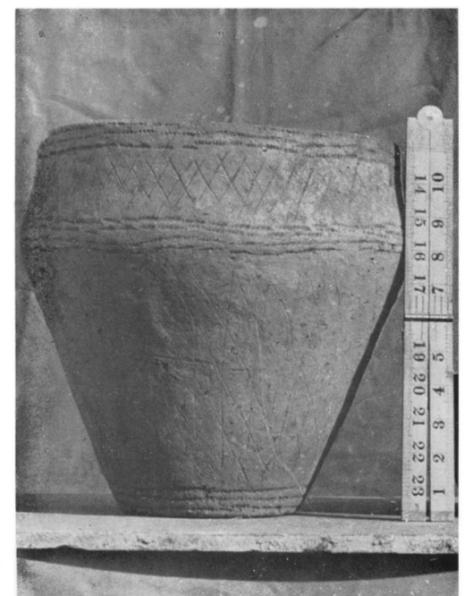
## Seskilgreen Urn

At dusk on the evening of 3rd October 1959, a sandy hill immediately behind Glencull Public Elementary school, townland Seskilgreen, about two miles west of Ballygawley on the Omagh road, was being quarried for "filling the new A5 road". Half of the hill had been removed, and the crest of the hill was now on top of the "face", which was here 35 to 40 feet high, and continually sliding down. The men working there saw something at the top of the bank for a time, and they say it was "like a bucket upside down" and only a foot or so below the surface. Soon afterwards there was a slide and the "face" came down. A clay 'Urn' rolled down the hill. One side of an 'urn' was broken in three large pieces. It was about

one-third full of small very dry pieces of **human bone** pressed into the bottom and held there by a mass of grass roots and some sand.

The bones were found to be of a person who lived between 2000-4000 years ago!!

P4/5 are studying Egypt and the Bronze age 4000 years ago. They'll visit the Armagh Museum next Thursday 5th Oct to see the Seskilgreen Urn and to learn more about early man and how life was 4000 years ago.



Bronze Age Urn, Seskilgreen, Co. Tyrone.



## Fruit Break

Just before morning breaktime the children who bring fruit with them will get an extra 5 min break to eat their snack. This should be a piece of fruit/veg. We would encourage all children to bring a piece of fruit every day. Parents can choose not to participate but other types of food can **not** be eaten at this time. Only fruit or vegetables.



October is the month of the Rosary. Every day we will say a decade of the rosary together at school. If your child has a pair of rosary beads-send them into school and they can use them every day.

## Free School Meal Forms

Free School Meals and Transport forms are available from the office for anyone who wishes to apply or visit <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

## Absence notes

Reminder: All absences should be followed up with a email for the class teacher. Please record the date and reason for the absence in an email and send it to your class teacher.

## School Dinner

The school dinners at Glencull are famous for their quality and popularity amongst the students (and staff). So what's the plus side to a school dinner at Glencull.

- at least one portion of fruit and one portion of vegetables with every meal
- high-quality meat, poultry or oily fish regularly
- bread, other cereals and potatoes regularly

Manners are important at Glencull (we say that 'Manners will take you places!'), school meals encourage your child to become adept at the table. Children eating

school meals have more opportunities to use a knife and fork and they are encouraged to say please and thank you during their meal times.

Glencull's smooth-running payment system makes it easy for you to organise your child's dinner routine at school. School money is available to book a dinner until midnight the night before a child would like to have dinner in school. Preferably prebook and pay for dinner before a child has it. All



your child has to do is remember is to say to their teacher that they are having dinner during role call.

## Errigal Ladies County Final

Friday 6th Oct is a Blue and Yellow Colour day celebrating Errigal Ciaran Ladies Playing in this years county final.

We have past pupils representing both teams in the final!

Errigal Ciaran have offered all the schools in the parish some footballs so they will be delivered on the day as well! The final is on Saturday 7th Oct 2023 in Healy Park in Omagh. We're encouraging

everyone to go down and support our team to make as much noise as possible for our ladies.

**Saturday 7th Oct 2023**

Ladies Senior Championship 23 Final

St Macartans **19:00** Errigal Ciaran

Venue: Healy Park, Omagh





St Malachy's Primary School  
Glencull

## Full School Day

Every morning from 8.45 until 9.15am children should put their bags in their cloakroom and go straight to their classroom! Remember to arrive on time. If your child needs to leave school early please let us know, via email, with a reason for the early home time.

## Policies

We periodically update policies at St Malachy's. If you have any comment about a policy just email Mr Gormley. See three new policies on our website: Breakfast and TUI club, Car Park and Complaints.

## Battle of the Books 2024

We're seeking a sponsor for the prizes for battle of the books this year. If your business is willing to sponsor a t-shirt or other commemorative prize for all those who get 10 stars during Battle of the Books this year—please email [bgormley892@c2ken.net](mailto:bgormley892@c2ken.net)

## Coats



Please remember to bring your coats from now on as Autumnal weather creeps in. Children may not be allowed out to play outside if they have no coats. Please label coats!!!!

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEE K 1 23rd Oct	Homemade Breadcr ed Chicken Goujons & Dip Or Chicken Wrap Diced Carrots Salad Selection Herb Diced Potato Gravy Jelly & Ice-Cream Slice with Orange Segments	Breast of Chicken Curry with Boiled Rice & Naan Bread Or Oven Baked Breaded Fish Fingers Sweetcorn, Broccoli Florets Mashed Potato Fresh Fruit Or Fresh Yoghurt	Roast Breast of Chicken Or Roast Pork Traditional Stuffing Fresh Diced Carrots, Broc- coli Florets Oven Roast Potato Rice Krispie Square & Custard	
WEE K 2 2nd Oct	Breast of Chicken Curry with Boiled Rice & Naan Bread Or Steak Burger Broccoli Florets Carrots Mashed Potato, Gravy Muffin Cake & Custard	Italian Pasta Bake Or Fresh Breaded Fish Gou- jons Baked Beans / Garden Peas Sweetcorn / Garden Peas Mashed Potato Jelly & Ice-Cream Slice Or Fresh Fruit	Roast Breast of Chicken Or Chicken Crumble Traditional Stuffing Fresh Diced Carrots / Pars- nip Oven Roast Potato Mashed Potato, Gravy Fruit Sponge & Custard	Chicken Nuggets Or Beef Lasagne Sweetcorn Salad Selection Mashed Potato Chips Frozen Yoghurt & Fruit Pieces
WEE K 3 9th Oct	Breast of Chicken Curry & Boiled Rice & Naan Bread Or Chicken Panini / Wrap Sweetcorn Broccoli Florets Herb Diced Potato Jelly & Fruit Pieces	Homemade Breaded Chick- en Goujons & Dip Or Cottage Pie Salad Selection Baked Beans, Diced Turnip Mashed Potato, Gravy Rice Pudding Or Fresh Yoghurt Or Fresh Fruit	Roast Gammon Or Chicken & Pasta Bake Traditional Stuffing Fresh Baton Carrots Cauliflower Florets, Mashed Potato, Oven Roast Potato Gravy Ginger Biscuit & Custard	Oven Baked Sausages Or Macaroni Cheese Garden Peas Coleslaw Baked Potato Chips Ice Cream & Fruit Pieces
WEE K 4 16th Oct	Pasta Bolognese Or Fresh Breaded Fish Gou- jons Fresh Baton Carrot Garden Peas Herb Diced Potato Parsley Sauce Eton Mess (Meringue, Fruit & Yo- ghurt)	Breast of Chicken Curry with Boiled Rice & Naan Bread Or Oven Baked Sausage Garden Peas Diced Carrots Mashed Potato, Gravy Fresh Fruit salad Jelly	Roast Breast of Chicken Or Flaked Salmon Wrap Traditional Stuffing Broccoli Floret Tossed Green Salad Oven Roast Potatoes Mashed Potato, Gravy Chocolate Brownie & Cus- tard	Homemade Margherita Pizza Or Marinated Chicken & Vegetable Stir-Fry Noodles Sweetcorn, Salad Selection Chips Ice Cream & Fruit Pieces



Student  
Council

- Student Council elections will take place in October.
- Thank you to last years council who helped shape how the school year was for all of our community.

St Malachy's PS  
\*First Communion\* - Saturday 27th April  
at St Malachy's Church at 11am  
Confirmation dates have not been released yet.