



# Glencull's March News

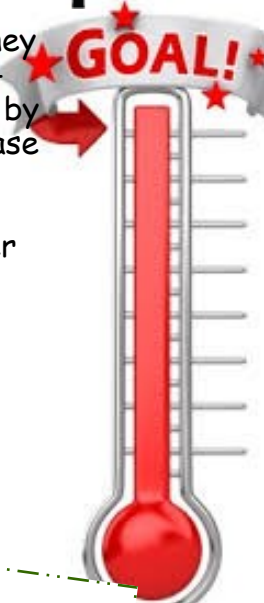


## WORLD BOOK DAY fest

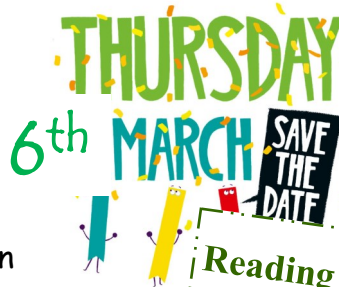
HAPPY, A BIG, BOOKY CELEBRATION OF READING

To celebrate 'World book day,' the children are encouraged to continue to take on the challenge of reading lots of books as part of the 'Battle of the Books!'. The finish date for the project is Thursday 6th March. They have to read books and write book reviews, after which they are awarded stars. They are challenged to collect 1100 stars across the whole school (or 10 each). You can use the book token

sent home to save money on your next book purchases. Tokens expire by 26th of March, so please use them ASAP. Children are asked to dress up as a character from a book on **Thurs 6th March!**



"Clearly one must read every good book at least once every ten years."  
— C.S. Lewis



Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog it's too dark to read. - Groucho Marx

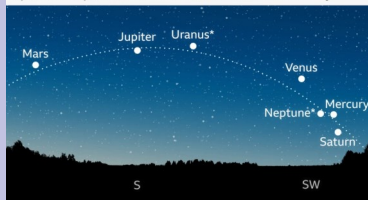
### Seven planets to be visible

Skywatchers are in for a treat this week as seven planets - Mars, Jupiter, Uranus, Venus, Neptune, Mercury, and Saturn will all be briefly visible in the evening sky.

This phenomenon, known as a 'planetary parade' is a rare sight, and it will be the last time seven planets can be seen simultaneously so well until 2040.

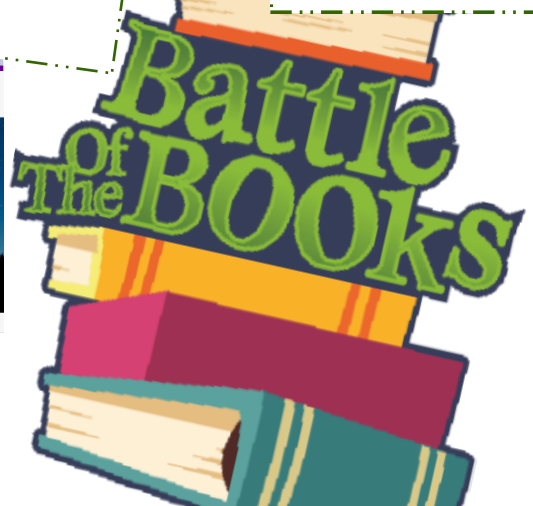
The best chance to see as many planets as possible will be just after sunset on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

How to view the 2025 planetary alignment  
Up to seven planets visible from sunset on 28 February



\*Uranus and Neptune visible with binoculars or telescope

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.



### Green Day

As part of our St. Patrick's Day celebrations we will be having a Green day on Friday 14th of March. Children are encouraged to take part in the celebrations by coming to school wearing green. There will be a prize for the best dressed! There will be a voluntary donation of £1

if the children wish to take part. Please bring in the £1 donation on Friday 14th and give it to the class teacher. All money raised will go toward St Ciaran's Peregrini Fund.



GreenDay in years gone by!

# Forest School

Mrs Mc Kenna's class will be going to Knockmany forest to participate in 'Forest School' on March 12th.

Mid Ulster Council has been working in partnership with the Northern Ireland Forest School Awards (NIFSA) to provide Forest Schools Programmes within various Mid Ulster Park Sites with great success. "Forest School" is based on a Scandinavian idea that considers children's contact with nature to be extremely important from an early age.

By incorporating innovative approaches to learning (such as undertaking small and easily achievable tasks) children are encouraged to develop their curiosity and motivation to learn. This is particularly important for those who find it difficult to assimilate knowledge in a strictly classroom situation.

On the day Mrs Mc Kenna's class wear No uniform. Instead wear warm clothes. Where possible children should bring their own waterproofs and wellies in a separate bag.



## Trying a Variety of Sports

There are a wide number of benefits to participating in a variety of sports and activities. Here are just a few of them:

### Avoid Injury

By playing the same sport, all year round, for years on end, you are at a much higher risk of experiencing overuse injuries. Endlessly training the same muscles and movements without a break can really wear on certain parts of your body. By pursuing a variety of sports, you will learn different movements and train different muscle groups in new ways, which can help to avoid injury and burnout.

### Develop New Interests

Rather than just playing one sport during the summer season, trying different sports during the part of the year they are happening can create a better balance of activity throughout the year e.g. winter soccer/rugby/gymnastics. Obviously if you

love a certain sport and only want to do that one, there's no sense in forcing yourself into other things.

### Build a Wider Skill Set

Trying other sports can actually help you to improve their skill set overall. By playing a variety of sports you'll develop a wider range of motor skills while building strength and endurance. Doing something new can help you to use muscles and techniques that they wouldn't otherwise use. This is especially true of sports that utilise one limb or muscle group over the others. The social skills developed during these activities with peers, teams mates and opposition, will be transferable into lots of other parts of your life.

## Opportunities to Participate

Donaghmore Basketball tournament Wed 12th March

ley892@C2ken.net so we can arrange medals etc with the running club.

### P6-7 Primary Schools cross country event run by Knockmany Running Club

Augher Central Primary school Friday 14th March

Separate boys and girls races ranging from 600metres - 1800 metres

Bring a packed lunch and drink in case the event runs past 12.30 with a change of clothes if it is a wet day - football boots recommended for running.

You may wish to collect your P3-5 child from school and bring them to Augher so they can participate. If so please email bgorm-



# Punctuality

Punctuality is an important discipline to learn for all the children at Glencull. We ask that children arrive before 9.15am (Not before 8.45, unless using breakfast club) so that they don't miss any part of lessons that start promptly at this time. Children arriving after 9.15 am are marked as absent from the morning session. Reminder: All absences should be followed up on the same day with an email for the class teacher. Please record the date and reason for the absence.

March 2025						
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						
April 2025						
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				

# Holidays

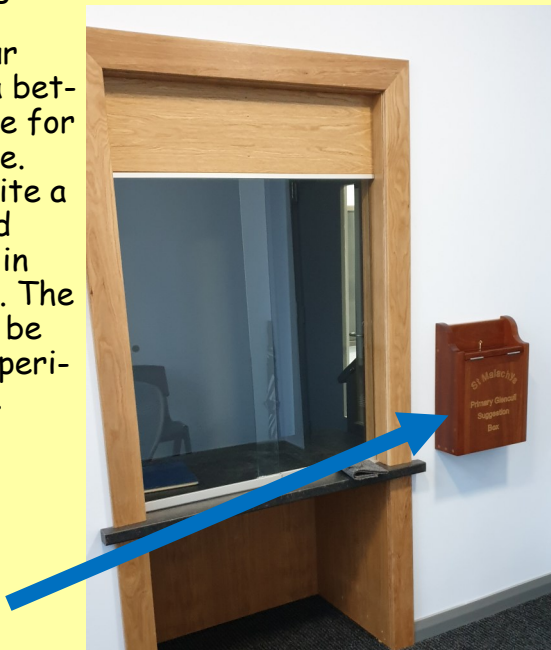
The date that the children are off for St. Patrick's day: Monday 17th March.

Easter is the following month with Holy Thursday the first day of holidays 17th April returning to school on Monday 28th April.



# Suggestion Box

A huge thank you Farrell Joinery who helped us install our suggestion box. Farrell Joinery used some mahogany from the old cloakroom benches to create this beautiful piece for the front foyer of the new wing of our school. The suggestion box is there for pupils and adults to make any suggestions they might have to make our school a better place for everyone. Just write a note and place it in the box. The box will be opened periodically.



Grandparents Day will be on Thursday 13th March.

Grandparents will arrive at 10am and go straight to their grandchild's classroom. They'll stay in a room for 15 minutes and move to the next room if they have more than one grandchild.

After 30 minutes grandparents will move to the sports hall for tea and scones and a chance to chat to friends and neighbours.

Remember, everyone is welcome to come for the visit.

Visitors for grandparents day are welcome to be dropped off at the gate while the driver parks up the private road above the school. Watch out for the adults who will assist with parking.

# Build Up Your Organisational Skills/Habits

Good organisation is a key component to being successful; Here's some tips and tricks to follow that will help you build up a child's organisational skills.

Introduce checklists; This is an easy way to help encourage your children to be organised and get things done in a systematic way. Remember, checklists don't have to be complex they can be simple. Start with easy lists such as '2 things to do before bed' or eventually make them more complex as your child grows older. Referring to lists will help

develop their ability to strategize tasks and organise their time.

Assign chores that involve sorting Tasks such as food shopping, sorting, and tidying are great ways to help test your child's organisation abilities.

Encouraging your child to get organised the night before school or a big event is great practice. The more they do it, the more they will develop their skills and get into the habit. Start encouraging your child to keep their homework, notes in an organ-

ised way. Establishing a homework routine and setting up a study schedule will enable your child to plan and organise their time efficiently and effectively.

In class and around the school we'll be asking the children to keep their own and shared areas tidy, e.g. the cloak room.

# Operation Tidy Up!

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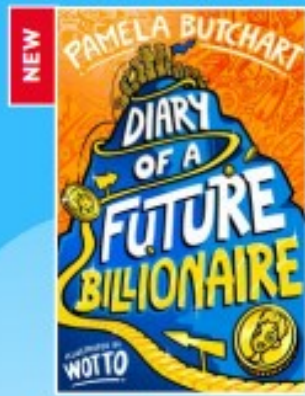


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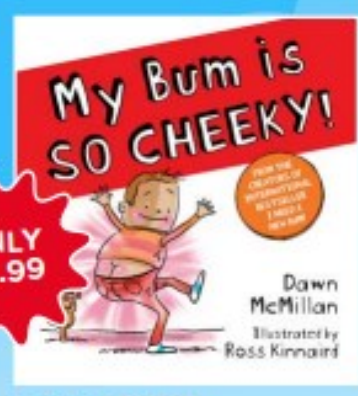
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Illustration from When Cookie Crumbled © Tom Knight, 2023

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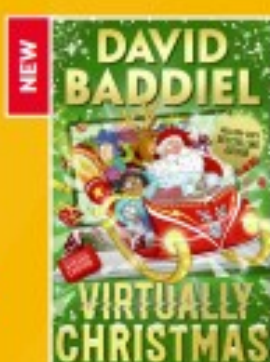
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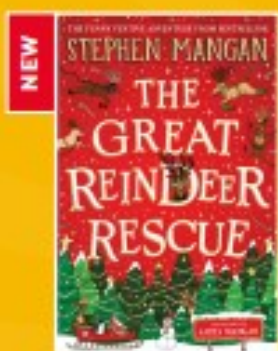
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## Payment at our Book Fair

Please check with your school for the best way to pay for your books

- You can pay online at the Fair via card reader machines if your school has one or by using the online payment link at [www.travellingbooks.co.uk/pay](http://www.travellingbooks.co.uk/pay) and simply selecting your school from the drop down menu.
- Pre-paid gift vouchers are available in **£5, £10, £15, £20 and £25**. Go to [www.travellingbooks.co.uk/gift-vouchers](http://www.travellingbooks.co.uk/gift-vouchers) to buy vouchers for your child before the Fair.
- If you can't attend the Fair in person, your child can order books via a Wish List - please ask your school for details.

## HELP EARN FREE BOOKS

Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting. Last year, with your help, we gave over **£5.3M** worth of free books to schools nationwide, which stocked school libraries and classrooms.



# My **BOOK FAIR** Wish List

IF YOU SPOT ANY BOOKS YOU LIKE AT THE BOOK FAIR, YOU CAN WRITE THEM DOWN ON YOUR WISH LIST BELOW.

NAME: CLASS: 

Title	Price
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## Information for Parents and Guardians

If you'd like to purchase any of the books your child has listed and want to avoid sending cash into school, you can pay online at [www.travellingbooks.co.uk/pay](http://www.travellingbooks.co.uk/pay) or by purchasing Book Fair gift vouchers.

You can find out more about the books available and confirm prices at [travellingbooks.co.uk/books](http://travellingbooks.co.uk/books)

**Pay Online: (this is a payment platform only, you do not enter your order)**

Visit [travellingbooks.co.uk/pay](http://travellingbooks.co.uk/pay)

If you're at the Book Fair, or if your child has attended and chosen their books, you can now pay online using our secure parent payment system. Once payment is complete, to place your order return this wish list to your school so your child's books can be supplied from the book fair.

Reference number: <input type="text"/>	Total order value: £ <input type="text"/>
Books Purchased: <input type="text"/>	
<input type="text"/>	
<input type="text"/>	
<input type="text"/>	

## Pay with Gift Vouchers:

Avoid handling cash with pre-paid gift vouchers. Visit [travellingbooks.co.uk/parents](http://travellingbooks.co.uk/parents) to purchase, available in £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25.

Gift Voucher code: <input type="text"/>	G000 <input type="text"/>	
Gift Voucher value: £ <input type="text"/>	Total order value: £ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Scan the QR code to pay online!





# March Menu

# EAT SMART WITH THE LUNCH BUNCH



WEEK BEGINNING	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
17 February 17 March 14 April 12 May 9 June	Homemade Beef Bolognese - Or - Home-Baked Margherita Piza & Coleslaw Green Beans & Diced Carrots Penne Pasta or Baby Potatoes with Herbs Iced Lemon-Sponge Finger	Baked Breaded Whiting & Tartare Mayo - Or - Creamy Mac 'n' Cheese & Garlic Bread Garden Peas & Sweetcorn Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Forest Fruits Flavoured Jelly with Mandarin Oranges	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry with Freshly Baked Mini Naan Bread - Or - Quorn Fillet with Creamy Pepper Sauce Broccoli & Roasted Butternut Squash Steamed Fluffy Rice or Oven-Baked Herb Wedges Cheesecake with Strawberry Sauce	Cook's Gammoon with Stuffing & Gravy - Or - Penne Pasta with Tomato & Beef Sauce Fresh Selection of Vegetables in Season Oven Baked Roast Potatoes & Mashed Potatoes Belgian Waffle with Fruit Salad & Chocolate Sauce	Oven Baked Chicken Goujons with choice of Dip - Or - Baked Potato with Cheesy Beans & Salad Baked Beans & Coleslaw Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Artic Roll with Summer Berry Sauce
24 February 24 March 21 April 19 May 16 June	Golden Crumbed Fish Fingers & Mayo Dip - Or - Roasted Garlic & Pesto Chicken Pasta Garden Peas & Baked Beans Mashed Potato or Pasta Salad Homebaked Chocolate & Raspberry Brownie	Homemade Beef Lasagne with Garlic Bread Slice - Or - Home-Baked Margherita Pizza with Salad in Season Baton Carrots & Broccoli Chipped Potato & Baby Potato Salad Assorted Yoghurt Pots & Fresh Fruit Salad	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry with Freshly Baked Mini Naan Bread - Or - Oven-Baked Pork Sausages with Gravy or Ketchup Sweetcorn & Spaghetti Hoops Steamed Fluffy Rice or Mashed Potato Caramel Apple Crumble & Custard	Cook's Roast Turkey with Stuffing & Gravy - Or - Salmon Fishcake with Mayo Fresh Selection of Vegetables in Season Oven Baked Roast Potatoes & Mashed Potatoes Ice Cream with Two Fruits	Cheeseburger with Burger Sauce in Bap - Or - Tex-Mex Chicken Fajita Mini Corn on the Cob & Coleslaw Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Homebaked Oaty Biscuit with Fresh Fruit
3 March 31 March 28 April 26 May 23 June	Oven Baked Cod Goujons with Mayo Dip - Or - Veggie Dog with Crispy Onions & Ketchup Garden Peas & Potato Salad Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Ice-Cream Slider & Orange Wedges	Homemade Spaghetti Bolognese - Or - Chicken Tikka Mayo Wrap with Salad & Coleslaw Baton Carrots & Broccoli Spaghetti & Parsley Baby Potatoes Homemade Jam & Coconut Sponge & Custard	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry with Freshly Baked Mini Naan Bread - Or - Home Baked Margherita or BBQ Chicken Pizza Mini Corn on the Cob & Butternut Squash Steamed Rice or Oven Roasted Cubed Potatoes Summer Fruit Salad & Yoghurt	Oven Baked Chicken Nuggets with Choice of Dip - Or - Ham & Mushroom Carbonara & Garlic Bread Slice Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Homemade Shortbread & Watermelon Wedge	Oven Baked Chicken Nuggets with Choice of Dip - Or - Ham & Mushroom Carbonara & Garlic Bread Slice Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Homemade Shortbread & Watermelon Wedge
10 March 7 April 5 May 2 June 30 June	Baked Cod Bites with mayo Dip - Or - Sweet Chilli Chicken Poutine & Salad in Season Mushy Peas & Coleslaw Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Chocolate Kraspie Square & Orange Wedges	Home-Baked Margherita or Tex-Mex Spicy Beef Pizza - Or - Penne Pasta & Roasted Mediterranean Vegetables Baton Carrots & Broccoli Oven Baked Paprika Wedges & Baby Potato Salad Cola Jelly & Chopped Fruit	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry with Freshly Baked Mini Naan Bread - Or - BBQ Pulled Pork with Cheese in Broccio Bun Sweetcorn & Roasted Butternut Squash Steamed Fluffy Rice & Pasta Salad Angel Cake & Custard	Cook's Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding with Stuffing & Gravy - Or - Quorn Dippers with Choice of Dip Fresh Selection of Vegetables in Season Oven Baked Roast Potatoes & Mashed Potatoes Ice-Cream Sliced Peas & Caramel Sauce	Hot Dog with Ketchup - Or - BBQ Chicken Wrap with Salad in Season Mini Corn on the Cob & Baked Beans Skinny "French Fries" or Baked Jacket Potato Chocolate Cookie & Milkshake

**MILK, WATER, BREAD & FRESH FRUIT AVAILABLE DAILY**

**IF YOU NEED ANY INFORMATION ON ALLERGENS, OR HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR SCHOOL ACCORDINGLY**

**MENU SUBJECT TO PRODUCT AVAILABILITY**

## First Confessions

\*Sacrament of reconciliation, First Confessions\*

Monday 31st March at 11am  
St Malachy's Church Ballymacilroy  
Parents and Grandparents are invited

to join the P4s for a relaxed service which should last an hour. Children will wear uniform and walk down the 'pad' from school and return to school after.  
Why not practice what going to confes-

sions is like with your P4 child at home.

## Act of Sorrow

O my God, I thank you for loving me.  
I am sorry for all my sins,  
For not loving others,  
And not loving you.  
Help me to live like Jesus,  
And not sin again.  
Amen