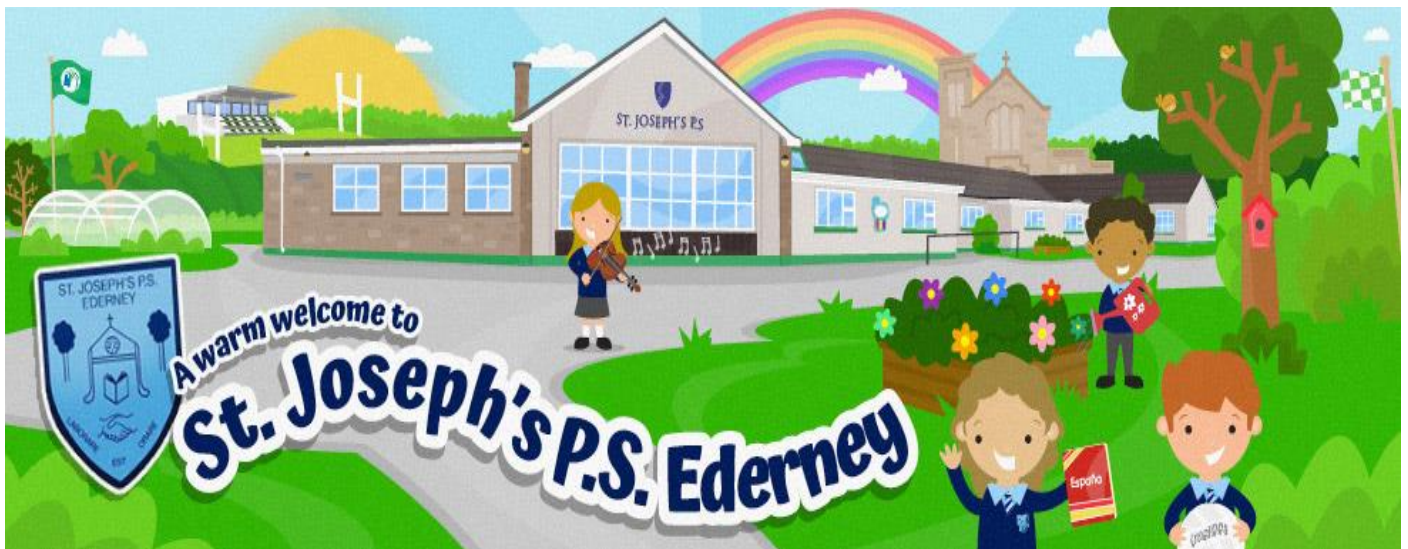


**Saint Joseph's Primary School**  
**&**  
**Ederney Community Nursery**

***Newsletter***

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**7<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

### Pauline's Retirement

This week we said farewell to Pauline, our classroom assistant, who has retired from her duties. Pauline has been employed as classroom assistant in St. Joseph's P.S. since 1993 and she has always been very warm, caring and nurturing to all of the children in her care. The children paid lovely tributes to Pauline this week as they recalled their happy memories of her - from the many ice lollies and ice cream she gave the children to the numerous shoelaces she tied and cut knees she mended. One child's memories of Pauline summarised how we all feel about her departure, "Pauline was always kind and was always smiling - she just made school an even better place to be!" We wish Pauline many years of happiness and good health in her retirement.

### Mrs McCusker Begins Maternity Leave

Today is Mrs McCusker's last day in Primary 1 as she begins her maternity leave on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Miss Chloe Gallagher will be covering the maternity leave in P1. We wish Mrs Mc Cusker a nice and peaceful rest before the arrival of baby number 2.

### World Book Day

A huge thank you to Mrs Sprice for organising World Book Day. It was fantastic to see the children dressed up as their favourite character, once again our parents displaying their fantastic creative skills - well done to you all! Photographs of the children on World Book Day are posted on our website and school Facebook page.

### Confirmation Pledge

Congratulations to the P7 pupils who will take the pledge on **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March**. Many thanks to Mrs Hagan who prepared the children so well for this special occasion.

### Sacrament of Confirmation

Sacrament of Confirmation takes place on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 6.00pm** in St. Joseph's Church Ederney

### School Choir

All pupils from P4-7 will be part of the school choir performing at **Confirmation on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March at in St. Joseph's Church Ederney at 6.00pm.**

### First Confession

We are delighted to be able to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with our Primary 4 pupils in St. Joseph's Church on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.**

### P7 Lough Derg Retreat

Pupils in P7 will travel to Lough Derg for a retreat on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March**. This is always a very special and spiritual occasion for the pupils, and we hope they will enjoy it.

### Irish Blitz

Primary 7 pupils are taking part in an Irish Gaelic blitz in Irvinestown today. The pupils are encouraged to use Irish language while playing.

### Book Fair

We are delighted to be welcoming the Book Fair back to St. Joseph's on **Monday 10th March**. You and your child can view the books via [www.travellingbooks.co.uk-parents](http://www.travellingbooks.co.uk-parents)

### School Nurse

The school nurse will visit on **12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> March**. The nurse will carry out routine checks in P1 class.

### Ditch the Stabilisers

Amy from Sustrans will be visiting on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March** to carry out Ditch the Stabilisers programme with those pupils who requested the programme - there are still available slots.

### Preventative Curriculum

As part of our Preventative Curriculum we have carried out numerous programmes throughout the year including Anti Bullying Week, Fire Safety, Children's Mental Health Week, Internet Safety Week, Road Safety, Paths Programme, Relax Kids and many more. We have planned to run a Healthy Eating Week and Speak Out Stay Safe Programme during March. More details to follow.

### Work To School

We are delighted that the work to our playground and carpark to alleviate drainage issues has been completed. Our playground has been retarred and we are awaiting playground markings.

Our mobile has been re-roofed following storm damage as well as a new roof to our play storage. We are hoping that the internal damage to the mobile will be repaired within a few weeks.

### Irish Language Classes

Our Irish language lessons, for all classes, will continue until Easter. If we are able to secure funding we will continue with these classes after Easter.

### Craic Agus Ceoil

Ederney GAA have kindly offered to organise a fund-raising event on **Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm** in Ederney GAA grounds to help pay for Irish language classes in the school. This promises to be an entertaining evening full of Irish culture. Some of our pupils have kindly volunteered to perform on the night - singing, dancing and Irish conversation. Children who volunteer will gain free admission but **must** be accompanied by an adult - adult tickets £5 and £3 for children. If you cannot attend but would like to contribute, you can do so by purchasing raffle tickets on the following link.

[https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Ederney\\_St\\_Josephs\\_GAC\\_/TicketSales](https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Ederney_St_Josephs_GAC_/TicketSales)

prizes for draw-

Cobbler's voucher  
Island Brew Voucher  
Hamper  
Belleek Living Lamp  
And various other prizes

### **Thank you St. Joseph's GAC Ederney**

As part of our ongoing initiative to try and keep all our kids in the school active and enjoying physical education we have joined forces with Ederney St. Joseph's GAA Club.

As part of this initiative the GAA club has made a significant financial contribution to the delivery of fundamentals coaching every Friday in the school. Every child from P1 to P7 getting 40min physical activity.

This helps the kids with movement, balance, stretching running, turning and is proven to help overall classroom attention spans.

With education budgets very challenging we are grateful to the club for stepping in and helping fund this initiative.

Our coach every Fridays is Donegal man Gary Wilson from AB coaching.

Gary is a fully qualified coach and has a great track record working with and developing kids physical movements.

### **St. Patrick's Day**

School will be closed on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** for St. Patrick's Day.

### **Easter Draw**

The School Council are busy organising an Easter Raffle and will begin selling tickets in aid of Trocaire.

### **Cash for Clobber**

The Eco - Council is organising Cash for Clobber as part of their 'Recycling Waste' topic. If you are spring cleaning and have items you don't want (clothing, bedding covers, curtains, shoes and handbags), we would be very grateful if you would send them into school in a bin bag. (items which are not suitable are duvets, pillows and soiled items). We would be grateful if we could have all items in before the **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March**.

### **After School Football**

After School Athletics (3.00pm - 4.00pm) continues each Monday for P4-P7 pupils.

### **Cookery Club**

Cookery for P7 with Rhonda, Josephine and Monica will begin at the end of the year - details to follow.

### **Board of Governors**

We have recently re constituted our team of Board of Governors, please find below our new members and their roles.

**St. Joseph's P.S, Ederney - Board of Governors**

Siofra Gallagher	Secretary
Paul McCusker	Chairperson/Member of Safeguarding Team
Charlotte Daly	Vice Chairperson/ EA Rep
REV. FR. Frank McManus	Trustee
Tanya Finlay	Designated Governor of Child Protection
Paul Mongan	Trustee
Roley McIntyre	Department of Education
Finbar Maguire	EA Rep
Charlene McCrory	Parent Rep
Anne Hagan	Teacher Rep