



St. Teresa's Primary School

"Doing ordinary things extraordinarily well"



Winter Newsline 2024

Parents / Guardians,

Happy New Year to you and your families.

Seesaw

All teachers will keep in touch with parents / guardians via the Seesaw App. Please make sure you are signed up to your child's teacher / class. (Information regarding School Book Fair week will be sent home)

Food Allergies / Healthy Break

Can I ask you to adhere to precautions we have in school for children with severe allergies? To date we have 4 children (who require epipens) and can I ask that NO nuts or fish are brought into school at ANYTIME. As we are a healthy eating school we require our children to bring in water, fruit or vegetables to eat / drink at breaktime. We hope to see an improvement in concentration and behaviours as we move forward together on this.

School Counsellor / Christmas Raffle

Mrs Jane McGeary has returned to work with our children each Wednesday morning in school. As this is an additional service provided by school we need to continue to fundraise to be able to offer this to our pupils as we are trying to fund the cost of retaining her services by ourselves. After our school raffle at Christmas, you helped us raise **£1645.00** to secure the services of our school counsellor for Term 2. Thank you for your help.

The winners of the raffle:

Bose Head Phones – Thomas Woods
Hair Envy Voucher – Laura O'Neill
Reflexology by Jane voucher – John Murray
4 Ball Lurgan Golf Club Voucher – Jacob Mardell
Feet treat hamper from Inspired Indulgence – Cillian McMahon
Clenaghans stay & £100 meal voucher (Donated by Smyth Construction)– Dan Mardell
Hendersons / Jim McCann / Golden Crust vouchers – Jackie Murray
£50 Tesco voucher – Jackie McKee
Supervalu hamper – Odhrán Gorman
£30 Woodville Arms voucher – Jason McConville
Tommy French voucher – Dominic Walsh
£100 cash (Donated by Health & Safety Services) – Anne McStravick
Mountpanther family voucher – Nella Breen
Bluehaven swimming voucher – Wayne Stewart
Premium Spurs ticket – Wayne Stewart

Thank you so much to all our sponsors and to our families for their continued support and to our FOST for sourcing all the wonderful prizes for the raffle.

FOST

A huge thank you to the Friends of St Teresa's for organising the Christmas Fayre back at the end of November for our school and community. A very enjoyable day was had and Santa Claus was very busy too. **£1000** was raised on this day and this money will be used to help finish our school sensory room. Thank you for your support.

Sacraments Dates / Times

P4 – First Penance – 28th February 2024 at 6pm in St Peter's Church, Lurgan.

P4 – First Holy Communion – 8th June 2024 at 11am in St Peter's Church, Lurgan.

P7 – Confirmation – 14th March 2024 at 11.30am in St Peter's Church, Lurgan.

St Vincent De Paul Christmas Hamper Appeal

Thank you for your generosity at Christmas time, in supporting our families / community. We were overwhelmed (again!) by your support in helping others less well off than ourselves. Photographs of the presentation were posted on our website.

Absences from school

Absences from school during term time are discouraged and will affect your child's attendance rate. If your child's attendance rate falls below 85% the 'Education Welfare Officer' will contact you or pay a visit to your home. If you do need to take your child out of school, please notify Mr. Kearney in writing. (This does not include days of sickness; you can notify school about sickness using the Absence Form on our school app).

Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week runs between **Monday 22nd – Friday 26th January 2024** in school. The theme this year is 'Communities of Service'. During this week we will welcome our Grandparents / Carers into school at the following times:

P1 – P3 – 9.30am – 10.30am (Tuesday 23rd January)

P4 - P7 – 11.00am – 12.00 noon (Tuesday 23rd January)

Each class will reflect on the importance of all our Grandparents / Carers and you are welcome to share memories with our children and accompany your grandchild in a photograph too. On Tuesday 23rd January you can visit the classroom to share a moment of the children's day. Refreshments will be served. Hope to see you all on Tuesday 23rd January!!!

Book Fair

Our Scholastic Book Fair will return to school from **24th – 30th January 2024**. Our children will be encouraged to buy a book to encourage the love of reading. An accompanying letter/leaflet will go home with your child, and you are welcome to attend during class at allocated slot (see timetable sent home via SeeSaw) to browse the range of books from the bookfair throughout the week. All additional commission from the Book Fair will be used for topping up accelerated reader library and class libraries for foundation stage. Thank you for your co-operation.

Admissions

Primary 1 admissions portal is now open via www.eani.org.uk/admissions for new Primary 1 children coming to St Teresa's in September 2024. Please visit our school website or our school Facebook page for more information - please spread the word! (Closing date for portal is 26th January 2024).

Primary 7 Post Primary Admissions will open on 30th January 2024 and close on 22nd February 2024 for children moving to secondary school in September 2024. Information will be sent out by the school about this prior to the opening of the portal and you can also visit the EA portal on www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions.

Parking

Please show consideration for our local residents by using the school car park, please try not to block driveways on Tarry Lane. Your co-operation with this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Wrap Around Club

Our Wrap Around Club so far has been very successful, however, it is extremely important that you book your child's slot before 9.30am each morning to allow for staffing. Children NOT booked in may not be able to stay if we have not got the staff to cover. **PLEASE BOOK YOUR SLOT BEFORE 9.30am EACH DAY!**

Key Dates:

16th Jan – Nurture Training for all classes

17th Jan – Boys indoor Gaelic tournament at Clann Eireann

19th Jan – Liam McCorry Gaelic Training (Outside) P5 / P6

22nd Jan – Start of Catholic Schools Week

23rd Jan – Grandparents / Carer's Day (See information above)

24th Jan – Girls indoor Gaelic tournament at Clann Eireann

24th Jan – Mass for Catholic Schools Week (10.30am in Banbridge – children will view online during school)

24th Jan – Book Fair to begin

25th Jan – Road Safety Quiz at Craigavon Civic Centre

26th Jan – Primary 1 Admissions closing at noon

29th Jan – Credit Union Quiz in St Anthony's – 5.45pm

30th Jan – Book Fair ends

30th Jan – Post Primary Admissions portal opens

6th Feb – Safer Internet Day for whole school

12th Feb – Mid Term Break school closed and 19th Feb - Children return to school after Mid Term Break

22nd Feb - Post Primary Admissions closes

28th Feb – P4 First Penance at 6pm in St Peter's Church

7th Mar – World Book Day

7th Mar – Confirmation Practice in St Peter's Church (No choir) 1.30pm

11th Mar – Confirmation Practice in St Peter's Church (With choir) 1.30pm

13th Mar - Confirmation Practice in St Peter's Church (With choir) 1.30pm

14th Mar – Confirmation at 11.30am in St Peter's Church

18th Mar – School closed for St Patrick's Day

21st Mar – Primary 7 Trip to Croke Park (Information to follow)

28th Mar – School closes at 11.30am for Easter Break

8th April – Term 3 begins for all children

