



St. Teresa's Primary School

"Doing ordinary things extraordinarily well"



Autumn Newline 2025

Parents / Guardians,

Welcome Back

A big welcome back to all our children and especially our new Primary 1 children. We hope all our children have a very successful year in school.

Pedestrian Gate

Please be advised that our 'new Pedestrian Gate' is now in operation.

The Pedestrian Gate will be unlocked from 8.15am – 9am (Blue badge holders and drop off can come through the vehicle gates), 1.50pm – 2.15pm

and 2.50pm – 5.15pm each day. Please **push** the gate during these times for entry. The main gate will be open for Blue Badge holders only. All other vehicles please park in the designated car park on Tarry Lane. The gates will not open before these times. Thank you for your patience and understanding.



On Friday 5th September school received a letter of apology from the individual that made the 'phone call' to school on 7th March. After a thorough investigation by the PSNI and we are happy to report that this matter has been dealt with and is now closed. There is NO LONGER anything to worry about and if you would like to read the letter, please call into the school office. Our priority has always and will always be to keep all children and staff safe in St Teresa's school community.

Communication

School Website – for 'whole school' information will continue in September

Seesaw – each class will continue with this from September. 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.

School App – for messaging / forms / bookings / payments this will continue throughout the year.

Newline – will continue throughout the year.

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 1 child (who requires an epipen) 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.

Absences from school

Absences from school during term time are discouraged and will affect your child's attendance rate. **You are strongly discouraged in removing your child from school during the school 'Term Time' to go on holidays.** If this happens your child's absence will be forwarded to the Education Welfare Officer / EA. 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).

Music Service

This year we welcome Mrs Sinead McConnell (Tutor) from EA Music Service who will work with our children in both core groups (Individual) and pathways programme (P4 Class) on Tuesdays. A letter will be issued soon outlining fees to be paid. Our Piano Teacher Mrs Rebecca Thornbury will also return to school week beginning 8th September to resume lessons.

School Development Plan / Annual Report

The Annual school report and School Development Plan for last year can be read on 'school letters' within the Parents Area on the school website.

Banbridge Festival

We are delighted to announce that all our children will be entering the Banbridge Festival on 20th November 2025 (to be held in school). This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to perform in front of an adjudicator, to improve their literacy development and self-confidence. Entry free will be £4.00 per child (this will be added to the School App in due course) and your child will receive a certificate and there will be winners within each class group.

Curriculum Afternoons

This year we are trialling a 'Curriculum Afternoon' for each class in October for Parents and Guardians only. You can meet your child/ren's teacher and hear what is to be expected. We will still be holding our normal 'Parent / Guardian Teacher consultations in January 2026.

The following are dates / times for curriculum afternoons:

- Monday 6th October 2-3pm (P5)
- Tuesday 7th October 2-3pm (P2)
- Wednesday 8th October 2-3pm (P1)
- Thursday 9th October 2-3pm (P3)
- Monday 13th October 2-3pm (P6)
- Tuesday 14th October 2-3pm (P7)
- Wednesday 15th October 2-3pm (P4)

Financial Help!!!!

If you can help support our schools financial situation, please contact Mr Kearney. See below for some of our expenditures throughout the incoming year.

Any donations would help with the following:

- Accelerated reader - £4200 (3 years – ends 2028)
- Reading Eggs / Maths seeds £1500 (1 year licence)
- Athletics - £2200 (3 years ends 2027)
- GL Assessment - £3500 yearly licence
- School App - £280 per year
- School Website - £360.00 per year
- School Counsellor - £3600 per year
- Twinkl - £900 per year
- New Rights Respecting Licence £350 per year
- Izak 9 £414 (1 year licence)
- Cumann na nBunscoil £100

FOST

We are very grateful for our 'Friends of St Teresa's' (FOST) group who work very hard fundraising for money to support **our** children in school. If you can help with support or would like to join their team please get in touch.

This year FOST are hoping to fundraise in order to help:

- Purchase outdoor play equipment
- Provide new outdoor games such as hurling / camogie equipment / basketball rings with back boards / footballs etc
- Purchase art equipment for all classes
- Help towards our new counsellor (as above)

Key Dates: (on the calendar on school website too!)

17th Sept – Open year School Mass in school for all children

6th – 15th October - Curriculum Afternoons see details above

13th Oct – P4 Trip to Palace Stables (Info on School App in due course)

15th Oct – PSNI Halloween Safety Talk P5-P7

16th Oct – School Photographer for whole school

17th Oct – St Ronan's Tournament

19th Oct – FOST Halloween Event, details TBC

20th Oct – M&M Productions in school @Robin Hood' (Info on School App in due course)

27th – 31st Oct – School closed for Halloween Break

13th Nov – PSNI Internet Safety talk with whole school

20th Nov – Banbridge Festival (in school) – all children to take part

25th Nov – School nurse (P1-P7)

27th Nov – P3 Trip to Planetarium

28th Nov – Santa visit / Lighting up event / Choir etc

4th Dec – Open Afternoon for New Primary 1 children 2pm-3.30pm

TBC – P.1-4/P.5-7 Christmas Shows

23rd Dec – 2nd Jan – School closed for Christmas Break (All children to finish at 11.30 on Monday 22nd Dec)

5th Jan 26 – Return to school for all children

