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## **MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER**

### **School Closures:**

The school will be closed on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>** for St Patrick's Day only.

### **Easter Raffle**

Our Easter Raffle will take place on Wednesday 1st April in school. Tickets cost 50p each or 5 for £2. All money raised will go to our chosen Charity this year, 'Mary's Meals.'

### **St. Mary's PTA**

We would like to thank the entire school community for the fantastic support the PTA have received in the Bonus Raffle fundraiser. All money raised will be used to purchase Easter Treats for the children. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates.

### **Sacramental Classes**

#### **First Holy Communion Class**

First Penance Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 7pm in St. Mary's Church.

#### **Confirmation Class**

Service of Light Holy Cross Church Lisnaskea Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 7pm.

Confirmation practice for pupils Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 11am - 12.15pm

Confirmation - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 6pm Holy Cross Church Lisnaskea

Pledge Saturday - 21<sup>st</sup> March 6pm Vigil Mass St. Mary's Church Maguiresbridge.

#### **Holy Thursday Mass**

The Confirmation Class will be attending the special Chrism Mass in Monaghan Cathedral on Holy Thursday the 2nd of April. Bishop Larry Duffy will be celebrating the mass. We will leave school at 9.45am and return at 3pm approximately, the children will get treated to Mc Donald's for their lunch on the way home and a chance to visit the shops in Monaghan Shopping Centre.

#### **Children's Mass**

We have two children's masses in the month of March in St. Mary's Church, Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> of March where P.7 will lead the liturgy and Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March when P.6 will lead the liturgy.

Key Child Protection & Safeguarding change will begin at this mass. Children in the gallery with the choir will be held back until the church empties and then will be handed to parents one by one at the bottom of the stairs.

### **World Book Day:**

We will celebrate World Book Day on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March this year**. We would like your child to dress up as a character from a Book to mark the occasion. We expect this to be a fun day for all, using clothes they have at home. Teachers will provide the children with ideas in class. Prizes (book vouchers) will be given for the best dressed in each class. Children will also be taking part in lots of fun reading challenges to mark the day. Children who prefer not to dress up should come in uniform as normal that day.

P.1 & P.5 classes in celebration of World Book Day will visit Lisnaskea Library on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 11.30am - 12.15pm

### **RELAXED KIDS**

Mrs O Hanlon will be leading a programme of Relaxed Kids sessions with the P.6 class during the month of March. Mrs O Hanlon will take sessions with all of the children in St. Mary's before the end of the academic year.

### **World Math's Day:**

We are excited to celebrate World Math's Day on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March, this year's theme is United By Numbers. Throughout the day our pupils will take part in a range of activities, including problem solving challenges, games, outdoor maths trails and teamwork tasks designed to show maths is all around us.

### **Love For Life Program P.7's**

As part of our ongoing commitment to the personal development of our pupils, we have invited Love For Life to deliver their What's Inside program to P.7 on the Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. The program includes interactive workshops, preparing 10-11 year olds for both the physical and emotional changes of puberty, exploring the changes associated with the transition to post-primary school, as well as recognising the importance of building healthy relationships.

### **Upcoming School Trips**

**P.7** - will travel to the SSE Arena Belfast to participate in Peace Proms 2026 on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March.

**P.4** - will travel to Armagh Planetarium on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March to support their learning topic of 'Space'.

**P.3** will travel to Florencecourt House and Gardens on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March as part of Shared Education.

### **P.6 & P.7 Swimming Program**

The P.7 school swimming Program will continue on Mondays during March in the Share Centre Lisnaskea.

### **PSNI Coaching Sessions**

Constable Gareth Hunter Erne East Neighbourhood Policing Team will be providing weekly soccer coaching to the P.7's on Thursdays during the month of March. He will also have sessions with P.7's in Maguiresbridge PS during March. The plan then is to arrange a match between the two schools to finish off the coaching program.

## **Big Walk and Wheel 16<sup>th</sup> March - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

As part of our work to encourage active travel to school we're taking part in Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel 2026, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling, and scooting challenge. The challenge runs from 16<sup>th</sup> March to 27<sup>th</sup> March and we would love everyone to be involved. On each day of the challenge schools compete to see who can record the greatest number of pupils walking, cycling, or scooting to school. We would encourage families to travel actively to school for as many days as possible during the event.

## **Cumann na mBunscol**

We will be hosting the county camogie and hurling skills' tests on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> of March. Children from all over the county will descend on St. Mary's to participate in a skills' competition for the prize of playing in a half time game in Croke Park during the All Ireland Hurling Championship series.

P.7 girls will take part in a Mini 7's County Gaelic Competition on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March in the Bawnacre Irvinestown.

## **Shared Education**

Children from St. Mary's P.S and Maguiresbridge P.S will continue this month with Shared sessions. P.7 are attending the Peace Proms in Belfast on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March. P.3 are going to MCPS on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March for a morning session and P.2 on 13<sup>th</sup> March. P.4 are having a shared session in St. Mary's on 26<sup>th</sup> March.

## **Girls 5 A Side County Soccer Competition**

Good luck to our P.7 Girls who will be participating in the IFA Girls Schools 5 a side competition at Devenish College on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

## **TESCO STRONGER STARTS REMINDER**

Don't forget to vote, for St. Mary's P.S when you are doing your shopping in Tesco Enniskillen. Use your tokens you receive after shopping. We would encourage the entire St. Mary's P.S Community to choose our project each time they are in Tesco.

## **P.4 - P.7 TIN WHISTLE LESSONS**

Tin Whistle tuition continues every Monday to children in P.4-P.7 classes. Tuition will be for 25 weeks of the year, at a of cost £1 per child per wk. £10 Term 2 & £5 Term 3.

## **Primary 6 Parents:**

Primary 6 Homework club will run weekly on Tuesdays. Children should be picked up from school at 4.30pm. If parents have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Mr. Prunty.