



171, Newtownsaville Road,
Eskra,
Omagh,
Co Tyrone.
BT78 2RJ

Phone: 028 82 841067

Fax: 028 82 841067

email: info@stpatrickseskra.omagh.ni.sch.uk

www.stpatrickspeskra.co.uk

Principal: Mrs. Keira McCallan BA (Hons), PQH

Monday, 25th November, 2024.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

- Last week was **Energy Week**. Pupils have been learning about ways to save energy at school and around the home. Your child has been given a **School's Challenge Sheet** to complete at home. Please encourage your child to complete the five energy saving activities. These everyday tasks can help reduce your home energy bills, while also educating your child on saving money and energy at home. **PowerNI** have kindly sponsored a prize of **£1000**, to be spent on a sustainability project or initiative. We won the prize last year and used the money to pay for storage and seating in our outdoor classroom! The prize will be awarded to the school saving the highest amount of carbon dioxide (pro rata according to the size of the school's headcount). In addition, five refurbished touchscreen Dell laptops will be awarded to the next five schools that demonstrate the highest energy savings. Please return the sheet to school on **Monday, 2nd December**.
- Please see a letter on our school website regarding the **Election of Parent Governor** on the school's **Board of Governors**.
- All ticket stubs, monies and unsold tickets for the **Rudolph Raffle** are to be returned to school by **Wednesday, 11th December**, please. The **Rudolph Raffle** will take place in **McElroy's** store on **Friday, 20th December**. Extra books of tickets for both raffles will be available from the parents' display. There will still be a prize for the child who sells the most tickets.
- Please see a note below from the **Chairperson** of our Eco - Committee, **Caragh McCarroll**:

The **Eco - Committee** would like to appoint a **Parent Representative** to assist us with our ideas and activities. As a Parent Representative, you will be expected to attend one meeting per term (three per school year). These will be held in the evening time and will take place in the school. We are looking for an enthusiastic, well-motivated and positive person with a keen interest in the world around them.

‘We learn to love and love to learn.’

The term of office is 2 years (or 1 year if your youngest child is currently in Year Seven.) Your child does not have to be a member of the Eco Committee – just a pupil at our school.

If you are interested in becoming a member, please complete the **Nomination Form** on our school website and return it to school by **Friday, 6th December**. In the case that we have more than one parent interested, we will hold an election on **Tuesday, 10th December, 2024**.

- Our **Advent Carol Service** has been arranged for **Thursday, 12th December @ 7.00pm in St. Patrick's Church, Eskra**. Pupils are asked to wear their Christmas jumper. Everyone is welcome.
- Our **Christmas Dinner** for pupils and staff is planned for **Friday, 13th December**. As usual, school will close at **12.45pm** on that day. The cost per pupil for Christmas dinner is **£2.60**. Pupils and staff are invited to dress up in their Christmas Clobber e.g., Christmas jumper/dress. There will be a prize for the most creative festive fashion. Participation is free.
- Please see a flyer on our school website from the **Speedwell Trust** about a **Christmas Event** taking place at **Parkanaur** on **Saturday, 30th November**.
- **Parents of pupils in Year Four:**
The **Sacrament of the Eucharist (First Holy Communion)** will take place on **Saturday, 17th May, 2025** in **St. Patrick's Church, Eskra** at **12pm**.
- **Parents of pupils in Year 6/7:**
Pupils have been invited to **St. Ciaran's College** on **Tuesday, 26th November** to see their production of **Calamity Jane**. A separate letter and permission slip was sent home on Friday.

Sarah McDermott, a first year student at **St. Mary's College, Belfast**, will be completing her **teaching practice** placement in **Year 6/7** this year. She will be visiting our school on Friday for one day, will complete a week's placement starting 20th January and will start a 7 - week block on 17th February. We welcome Sarah to our school and we wish her every success and happiness.

- **Parents of pupils in Year 5 and Year 6:**
Staff from the **Dairy Council** are coming in to deliver their **Food and Fitness Workshop** on **Friday, 29th November**. We look forward to meeting them.
- **Parents of pupils in Year Seven:**
The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will take place on **Sunday, 23rd March, 2025 @ 3pm** in **St. Patrick's Church, Eskra**.

‘We learn to love and love to learn.’

Yours sincerely,

Keira McCallan

Mrs. Keira McCallan (Principal)



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