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

Monday, 14th April, 2025.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

- A sincere **Thank You** to everyone who has either bought or sold tickets for our **Easter Draw**. We have postponed the draw until tomorrow to allow more time for tickets to be returned. Details of the amount raised, the winners and the children who sold the most tickets will be issued on our school website tomorrow.
- Please see a note below from our **Parents' Association**:

Friends of St. Patrick's are running our annual Coffee Morning on Easter Sunday after Mass. Please spread the word. We have a raffle and maybe even a visit from the Easter Bunny! Any offers of help on the day are also very welcome. Please message the FB page if you aren't on the What's App Group.

- Our **Nature Rangers Afterschool Clubs** will continue after Easter (week beginning **28th April**). Please see our website for a list of dates for each club.

I had hoped that registration would open today but I am waiting on **NIFSA** to set it up. Once it is open I will let parents know.

As you are aware, we will be delivering a **Forest School Fortnight** from **Monday, 21st July to Friday, 1st August, 2025**.

Places will be limited to **24 children** per day and will cater for pupils from **4 – 12 years old**. Sessions will be delivered by **3 members of our school staff** and a **NIFSA employee**.

Sessions will last from **9.30am** (with drop off from 9am) to **2.30pm** daily and the cost is **£22 per day** or **£100 per week**.

‘We learn to love and love to learn.’

Activities will take place in our outdoor classroom (behind the Year 1/2 mobile) and will include:

- ✓ Nature Art
- ✓ Den Building
- ✓ Bug ID
- ✓ Scavenger Hunts
- ✓ Using tools
- ✓ Cooking on fire
- ✓ Lots of free play and exploration

Although we will have different activities available each day, Forest School is not about structured activities, an end product or having something to take home, it is about allowing the children to explore and extend their interests.

Children should come dressed appropriately for the weather and have a coat with them. When necessary, suncream must be applied before arrival at holiday club and we can assist children to re-apply, if required. Children need to be in closed shoes or boots and we advise long trousers and tops as there may be nettles, etc.

Pupils are asked to bring a **packed lunch** and water (**no plastic bottles, please**).

Special Needs

NIFSA is responsible for running the summer club. They will do their best to cater for all children. Please contact Caoimhe on caoimhe@learningwithoutwalls.net or 07765997060 to discuss individual circumstances in advance of booking.

Disabilities

Please contact Caoimhe on caoimhe@learningwithoutwalls.net or 07765997060 to discuss individual circumstances in advance of booking.

Parents can book for single days or complete weeks. Booking is **now open**. Please log into your account through the link below to book:

<https://nifsa.magicbooking.co.uk/Identity/Account/Login>

If you have any difficulty booking, please contact Caoimhe on caoimhe@learningwithoutwalls.net or 07765997060.

- Please note that **chewing gum is not permitted in school, under any circumstances.**
- Pupils are completing their **Annual Standardised Tests** during the Month of **May**. Please let your child's class teacher know as soon as possible if your child is going to be absent from school during the month of May to minimise disruption to testing.

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- **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 Years 6 and 7:**
Due to the number of outdoor activities, sporting events and trips, pupils in **Year 6/7** are asked to wear their **PE uniform** every day for the rest of the school year, unless instructed otherwise through the Monday Note or via a text message.
- **Parents of pupils in Year Seven:**
The **St. Ciaran's College Induction Day** which includes the completion of an entrance test will take place on **Friday, 6th June**. More details to follow shortly.

Donnie McGale will be calling to school tomorrow morning to collect the orders for **Confirmation photographs**. Please ensure you have your orders in.
- Dinners for April **must** be paid for by tomorrow.
- School will close on **Wednesday at 12pm** for the **Easter Holidays**. Please note that lunch will **not** be provided on this day. Pupils are expected to return to school on **Monday, 28th April** at the usual time. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy and relaxing Easter.

Yours sincerely,

Keira McCallan

Mrs. Keira McCallan (Principal)



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