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

Monday, 16th February, 2026.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

- I am delighted to welcome to **Saerlaith McGuigan** (Year 1) and **Fiadh McGuigan** (Year 5) who started our school today. We hope that they enjoy settling in and we wish them every happiness and success in the years ahead.
- **Friday, 6th February** was a hugely successful day for our pupils. **Congratulations** to everyone involved. Please see below:
- A huge **Well Done** to all our pupils who participated in the **Credit Union Quiz** in **Fintona Golf Club** on **Friday, 6th February**. All our pupils participated with great enthusiasm and displayed exemplary behaviour throughout. We are very proud of them all.

A special congratulations to:

Chloe Meegan, Róisín McGinley, Éabha Mullan and Leo Fox who **achieved** an amazing **2nd place** in the **Under 11 Competition** (Pupils who were under 11 on 31st December, 2025)

and

Saorlaith Shiels, Hannah Donnelly, Caragh McCarroll and Joe McMaugh who **won** the **Under 13 Competition** (Pupils who were under 13 on 31st December, 2025)

The **Under 13** team will now progress to the next round which will be held in **Canavan's, Garvaghy** on **Sunday 8th March**.

Congratulations to our **Girls' Cross Country Team** and our **Boys' Cross Country Team** who were magnificent at the **Flahavan's Cross Country League** on **Friday, 6th February**. Please see a message below from **Mrs. Tracey Scullion**:

'We learn to love and love to learn.'

Massive congratulations to all our cross-country runners and fun runners who have represented St. Patrick's so well over the three rounds of the NI Athletics Flahavan's Cross Country League.

Our school ran in the Tyrone and Fermanagh district, battling it out over 3 rounds with over 20 schools from the district. We are pleased to report that our **Girls' Team** topped the league in **first place** and will proceed to the **Ulster Final!** Our **Boys' Team** played a blinder in the 3rd race, securing **3rd place** in the league and a place in the Ulster final. These are unbelievable results for a school of our size and the children should be commended for their dedication, their fitness and their ability to work as a team.

We wish the 6 boys and 6 girls all the very best in the **Ulster Final** and we are so proud of them representing our school, our parish and our county in the final.

Please note, cross country running will take place on **Tuesday** this week and next week. The three P5 pupils involved in the Boys' and Girls' Team will also attend training.

Congratulations also to our **Year 6 and Year 7 girls** who took part in the **Cumann na mBunscol Indoor Football Heat** on **Friday, 6th February**. They have made it through to the **County Final** which will take place in March. **Good luck in the final, girls!**

- **Tomorrow is Pancake (Shrove) Tuesday.** Staff may make pancakes with the children or serve pancakes to them. If your child has any allergies, please remind his/her Class Teacher.
- **Wednesday is Ash Wednesday.** Pupils will be learning about the significance of Ash Wednesday and Lent through their Religious Education lessons. Please talk to your child about the importance of making a Lenten Promise to God at this special time. **Canon McGahan** will be coming into school on Wednesday to administer the ashes to pupils and staff.
- School Dinners should be paid for on a weekly basis at the request of Cashiers Department, Education Authority. Please try to have the correct dinner money, if possible. Old coins and Euros must not be included.

School Milk for **Term 2** is **£8**.

- Our updated **Child Protection And Safeguarding Policy** and **Pastoral Care Leaflet for Parents** is available to view on our school website under **Parents – Policies**. Please read these documents carefully and complete the consultation form attached to this letter. A paper copy of the form will be sent home with your child tomorrow. Please return the form to school by **Friday** of this week.

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- **Please read below messages from the School Council:**

Our school has been fortunate in securing funding from **Fermanagh and Omagh District Council** to the value of **£602.86** as part of a food-related initiative to alleviate food insecurity amongst pupils in schools. It is therefore planned that, for the next number of Tuesdays, commencing **tomorrow, 17th February**, each class will provide their pupils with a range of healthy snacks, drinks and breakfast treats at snack time. There will therefore be no requirement to send a snack in with your child on a Tuesday until further notice.

The **School Council** are planning a **Cake Sale** for **Monday, 23rd February** held in **Eskra Community Centre's Hall** from **10.00am**.

Any food donations towards the cake sale would be greatly appreciated and are to be brought into school on the morning of Monday, 23rd February.

Each class will have the opportunity to visit the Cake Sale. Pupils are asked to bring money into school on the day of the cake sale if they want to purchase items.

Parents, grandparents, family members and friends are welcome. All proceeds are in aid of **Grovehill Animal Trust** who delivered an assembly to the children earlier this year.

- The **Department of Education** notified all schools on 30.01.26 that they are offering two additional **School Development Days** this academic year, one this term and one in term 3, for schools to engage with **DENI's Transformed Programme**. As a consequence, our school will now be closed to pupils on **Wednesday, 18th March, 2026** and **Tuesday, 5th May, 2026**. Please see an updated school closure list on our school website.

- **Parents of pupils in Year Four:**

The **Sacrament of Penance (First Confession)** will take place on **Thursday, 5th March, 2026** in **St. Patrick's Church, Eskra** at **7pm**.

The **Sacrament of the Eucharist (First Holy Communion)** will take place on **Saturday, 16th May, 2026 @ 12.00pm** in **St. Patrick's Church, Eskra**.

Everyone is welcome.

- **Parents of pupils in Year Six:**

Mr. O'Brien and I will be delivering a **Year 6 Transition Information Session for Parents** on **Thursday, 19th February @ 7.00pm**. The aim of this session will be to inform parents of current and proposed arrangements to aid and support pupils' transition from Year 6 into Year 7, to provide appropriate information for parents to help them make an informed decision regarding their child's participation in preparation for and completion of the Transfer Test, to outline support provided by school and how parents can help their child at home. This session will be beneficial to all Year 6 parents.

- **Parents of pupils in Year Seven:**

Mrs. Barrett will be delivering the **Cycling Proficiency Scheme** with pupils in **Year Seven** every Monday afterschool. Pupils will remain in school until **4.30pm**

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each Monday for several weeks. They are advised to bring a snack with them for the afternoon.

The Cycling Proficiency Scheme (CPS) has been running in Northern Ireland schools for 50 years. It helps pupils develop their cycling skills, increase their confidence as cyclists and identify risks they may come across on the roads.

Please make sure that your child brings his/her bicycle to school on **Monday, 23rd February**, that it is in proper working order and that it is the correct size for your child. Pupils are asked to bring a helmet too.

Please complete the permission slip attached and return it to school by **Thursday, 19th February**.

A **Confirmation Information Evening** for parents of pupils in **Year 7** has been arranged for **Thursday, 19th February @ 6.30pm**. All Year 7 parents are welcome to attend.

A **Service of Light**, in preparation for Confirmation, will take place on **Thursday, 19th March, 2026** in **St. Patrick's Church, Eskra @ 7pm**. Pupils are asked to bring their **Baptismal Candle** to the service.

A **Confirmation Practice** will take place on **Sunday, 22nd March, 2026 @ 5pm** in **St. Patrick's Church, Clogher**.

The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will take place on **Saturday, 28th March, 2026** in **St. Patrick's Church, Clogher @ 11am**. **Bishop Lawrence Duffy** will be celebrating the sacrament with us. We look forward to seeing you there.

EA Connect opened on **Tuesday, 27th January, 2026** at **12 noon** and will close on **Thursday, 19th February, 2026** at **12 noon** for **Year 8 Post Primary Applications**.

Please use the link below to access EA Connect: <https://connect.eani.org.uk/parent>

Yours sincerely,

Keira McCallan

Mrs. Keira McCallan (Principal)



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Consultation With Parents

Child Protection And Safeguarding Policy

and

Pastoral Care Leaflet For Parents

2026



Parent/s Name/s: _____

I have accessed, read and understood the Child Protection
And Safeguarding Policy.

Yes

No

I have accessed, read and understood the Pastoral Care
Leaflet for Parents.

Yes

No

If you answered No, please give further information.

Signed:

Date:

Year 7 Cycling Proficiency Scheme 2026

My child _____ will/will not be completing the **Cycling Proficiency Scheme** with **Mrs. Barrett** on **Monday** afternoons afterschool, starting on **Monday, 23rd February**.

Signed:

Date: