


School News

Nov 2023



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|----------------------------------|--|---|--|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 P5-7 swimming P5-7 Relax Kids | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 PTA meeting 7:30pm | 14  World Diabetes Day Wear Blue to School | 15 P5-7 Living History workshop | 16 P5-7 swimming P5-7 Relax Kids | 17 | 18 Bank Craft Fair 10am – 3pm |
| 19 | 20 P1/2 trip to Armagh Museum | 21 | 22 | 23 P5-7 swimming P5-7 Relax Kids | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Assembly with Rev Dickey P5-7 cross community tree planting in Drumcairne Forest | 30 P5-7 swimming P5-7 Relax Kids | 1 st Dec | 2 |

Pupil Council

The pupil council has been established, and well done to those who were successful:

Sarah Parkes, Sadie Houston, Gracie-May Newell, Maria Anderson, Rebecca Richardson, Amy Anderson, Adam Watters, Emily McElroy, Ethan Simpson, Kathryn Walker, Rodrigo Rozitis

We are sure they will represent their peers very well and will bring lots of fun ideas to the fore.

A meeting will be scheduled shortly and exciting news to follow no doubt! Watch this space.

Accelerated Reader

Well done to all the boys and girls in P3 – P7 who reached their AR targets before half term. They all deserved their awards for working so hard.

A new target has now been issued to everyone in P3-P7, and they have until 20th December to reach it. Let's get reading!

P3 – P7 Quizzes can be done via this link:

<https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/welcomeportal/2252951>



Community Craft Fair

Local lady and past SPS teacher, Susan Stewart, is organising a community craft fair in The Old Bank courtyard on Saturday 18th November from 10am to 3pm. To show our support for the community event, Friends of Stewartstown Primary School are taking a stall and selling baked produce. They are seeking donations of wheaten bread, fruit loaves, scones, tray bakes, cakes, buns, desserts ... anything homemade. Should you wish to support the stall, please have items priced and left in school on or before the morning of Friday 17th November. Go on... get your apron on and get baking! It is for a great cause!

Christmas Shop

We will be opening our annual Christmas shop again at the end of November, as every year the pupils like to buy their family members a little something, without mum or dad knowing what it is!

In order for the shop to work, we rely on your donations of gifts.

Please donate a few items each, to suit a range of people, male and female. Items should be valued from 50p to £2 or £3. Gifts can include socks, gloves, candles, sweets, toiletries, gift sets, books, keyrings, scarves, hats...

I am sure we all have a few things in our cupboards that could be donated!

Once the shop is set up, then pupils can bring in a few pounds and buy gifts for their family members.

All cash proceeds go towards school funds.



Punctuality

Please do try and have your children in school before the 9am bell. Pupil's anxiety heightens when they have to walk in late to their classroom, as the other pupils have already started their work. Our doors open at 8:45am daily, or you have the opportunity to avail of our morning club from 8am for £1 per child should it be of any benefit.

All latenesses are formally recorded and will affect your child's attendance rate as they are missing school time.

The Education Welfare Officer (EWO) does make frequent visits to school to monitor attendance and may wish to speak to persistent late comers.

Coats

Please ensure your child brings a coat to school every day. We do try to get outside for fresh air where possible, and often a coat is needed.

We do have some spare coats in school, but pupils are not keen on wearing these!

Dungannon Festival

!IMPORTANT CHANGE OF PLAN THIS YEAR!

Dungannon Festival will take place during the first week of March 2024. Up until now we have taken all pupils in P4-7 to perform solo pieces on the recorder, and then the whole school to perform in a 'whole school' choir.

This year we are changing things.

Recorder:

If your child in P4-7 is **NOT** keen on standing on the stage and performing a solo piece, please let us know before Friday 24th November, and we will not enter your child for that competition.

(Entries close for the festival at the end of November, and any withdrawals after that date, parents will be asked to pay the entry fee, as the school will have it already paid.)

All pupils will be learning the recorder piece as part of their music lessons, regardless of whether they are participating in the Festival or not.

Choir:

Due to an increase in our whole school population 😊 we feel it will be too tight a squeeze to put all pupils into the one choir on stage. This year we will be taking two choirs. P1-4 and then P5-7. Both choirs will take part in the same non-competitive competition.

We expect all pupils to participate in the singing performances at the Festival. Again, these pieces will be taught in school as part of the pupils' music lessons.

Harvest Donations

Many thanks to everyone who donated food for our foodbank appeal before Hallowe'en. We extend our thanks to Coalisland Credit Union for their very generous cash donation towards our appeal.

All food donations have been re-distributed within our community.

Earrings

Children are only permitted to wear stud earrings which, for health and safety reasons, **MUST** be removed for P.E. It is the parent's responsibility to remove the earrings before the child comes to school.

Healthy Eating

Please encourage your child(ren) to eat healthily at break and lunch time. Pupils should bring water (not fizzy or flavoured) to school in a CLEAR bottle. Drinking water in class helps with concentration.



School Fund

We are asking every family to continue to make the £1/week/family voluntary contribution to our 'School Fund'.

With everyone contributing, it soon adds up, and helps us to keep additional costs to you at a minimum. It totals to £37 - £40 per family per year.

Every other school ask for payments for school trips, transport, swimming lessons, French lessons, visitors to school, books, resources for special days (Pancake Tuesday for example)... **WE DON'T!** Your £1 weekly contribution really does help our school and goes directly back to your child(ren). Please do help us out. Thank you.

Cash for Clobber

Our purple bin located at the front door helps to top up our school fund also and has proved to be very successful. Please help by bringing in the bin bags filled with recyclable products – clothes, shoes, handbags, curtains. Last month we received £56! Every donation helps!



Shopping Online This Christmas?

Please think of us and use Easy Fundraising
To date we have received payments totalling over £1800 which is remarkable!

Money is donated to us every time you shop online. All you have to do is register with easyfundraising.org.uk, select Friends of Stewartstown Primary School as your selected cause and then every time you buy something online, do it via the Easy Fundraising page. It is very simple and very effective. It does not cost you any more money and we do not get any information about what you bought or where you shopped. Imagine what we could get if every family joined! Please – next time you are shopping online (Asda, Tesco, Amazon, Ebay, Thomas Cook, Dorothy Perkins... the list is endless...) help get us some free money!

Download the app today or visit the site.



Friends of Stewartstown Primary School

Many thanks for all your support with our Hallowe'en Disco. It was a great success with lots of spooky characters in school that evening! £88 was raised in total which was amazing! Thankyou!



Save the Date!

Panto Treat!

We have booked a PANTO trip to Armagh Market Place Theatre to see Aladdin for our whole school – all pupils in P1 – P7 for the 10am show on Tuesday 5th December.

Bus will be leaving 9am sharp!

PTA funds will cover the cost of this magical treat!

If you do not wish your child to attend, please let us know by 24th November 2023



Award Winners:

Principal's Award: Elizabeth Richardson, Kate Shepherd, Emily McElroy

Merit Certificate: Eva Kennedy, Jessie Magill, Kylan Burton

Boy of the week: George Mullan, Ben Mullan, Joshua Watson

Girl of the week: Arya Gilmore, Lily Cullen, Maeve Kelly

Supper With Santa

STEWARTSTOWN
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Craft Activities
Story Telling
Meet Santa
Craft Stalls

Supper with Santa

FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2023
TIME SLOTS AVAILABLE FROM
5PM TO 7PM

Child Ticket - £10 (age 3yrs+)
Infant Ticket - Free (age 0-2yrs)
Adults (18yrs+) - Free (Charge for supper)

<https://buytickets.at/friendsofstewartstownprimaryschool/1043902>

BOOKING ESSENTIAL
via link or QR code

After School Activities



Term 1 After School Activities

| Day | Club | Dates | Who for? | Time | Price |
|-----------|---------------------------|---|--------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Monday | Multi Skills | week 7: 06/11/23 week 8: 13/11/23 week 9: 20/11/23 week 10: 27/11/23 | P1/2 P3-7 | 1:45 – 2:45pm 2:45 – 3:45pm | All term 1 after school activities FREE with thanks to a successful grant from Mid Ulster Council. |
| Tuesday | Self Defence with Christy | week 7: 07/11/23 week 8: 14/11/23 week 9: 21/11/23 week 10: 28/11/23 | P1/2 P3-7 | 1:45 – 2:45pm 2:45 – 3:45pm | |
| Wednesday | Fun Club with Miss Black | week 7: 08/11/23 | P1/2 | 1:45 – 2:45pm | |
| Thursday | Fun Club with Miss Black | week 8: 16/11/23 week 9: 23/11/23 week 10: 30/11/23 | P1-3 | 1:45 – 2:45pm | |
| Thursday | Ulster Scots | Week 7: 09/11/23 | P4-7 | 2:45pm – 3:45pm | |