



St. Mary's Gortnaghey Primary School

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82 Gortnaghey Road, Dungiven, BT47 4PZ

Dear Parents / Carers,

19/5/2024

New After School Clubs

We have several new afterschool clubs which began over the last few weeks.

George Murphy - music/ singing club with P1/2

- tin whistle with KS2

Marion Murphy - Irish language club

Relaxed kids with Ann - P1 to P4

GAA Club with Mr O'Kane & Mr Dillon - KS2

Aoife Mullan also provides each class with singing lessons every Thursday for a 10 week block. Thank you to all our facilitators and staff for enriching our pupil's day at school and helping us provide these opportunities to the children.

Pop Up Play – 4 week sessions – Week 2

The pop up play the programme facilitated by the Dryarch will run from 1-pm – 2pm beginning Tuesday the 14th for four consecutive weeks in St. Mary's PS Gortnaghey in the school hall. All welcome please spread the word!



Post Primary Year 8 – Notification of Outcomes

Our fabulous primary 7 pupils, who will be moving onto their next chapter of education to post primary in September, should have received notification of their placement for next year on Saturday. We hope you all achieved a placement in your preferred school and you are all happy with your allocation. We are so proud of you all and we know you will continue to impress in your new schools during Year 8 and beyond.

Strike Action – Monday 20/5/2024 and Tuesday 21/5/2024

Due to strike action hot dinners will not be provided in school on Monday or Tuesday for any children, can you send packed lunches with your child/ children on these days. Apologises for any inconvenience caused.

First Holy Communion – Saturday 25th May 2024

On Saturday 25th May at 11am our wonderful Primary 4 class will make their First Holy Communion in the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Gortnaghey. **We ask all families of Primary 1 to Primary 4 children make a donation this week for the celebrations in school after Mass.** We appreciate scones, sandwiches, traybakes or biscuits for the event. Items can be sent in this week; the school will also be opened from 9.30am on Saturday if you would like to drop items off on the morning of the Communion. As always, your support is greatly appreciated.

PTA and parent volunteers

I would like to thank our PTA and any parent volunteers who are helping make our school be the best it can be. Following the big school clean up, one of our families has negotiated cost price paint and spent the weekend painting the front wall and decorating and refreshing our school sheds!! The work is on going and I would like to thank everyone who helped in the Big Clean Up and especially SP and Leona Dunne who have spent this weekend working on the Foundation Stage Play area, it looks amazing already! The children are going to amazed and we will have a grand opening of the area when all work is complete.

If anyone has a free couple of hours this week on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon between 12noon to 4pm, we would like a few helpers to paint the window sills and the blue base around the school to freshen up in time for the Holy Communion on Saturday. Bring a paint brush if you have a spare hour of two.

Mathletics Success - Term 3.1

A huge congratulations to all our Mathletics stars. We have had numerous silver certificate winners, three of our P1 pupils earned a platinum certificate, amazing! One of our P1 boys has achieved an emerald certificate! Another P4 boy has achieved an emerald, epic and legend certificate! Sean is the first child in our school to gain the legend status, a fantastic achievement in primary 4! Well done everyone keep up the hard work. 🙌🌟🙌



The Art and Design Factory – 3 week Programme

Thank you to Sinead McDermot @ The Art and Design Factory for an amazing day, our first day of 3 planned days over the next few weeks. The children all really enjoyed each activity, fully resourced, researched and relevant lessons. Thank you and we look forward to our next lesson.



Miss Kerlin's last week as a Miss

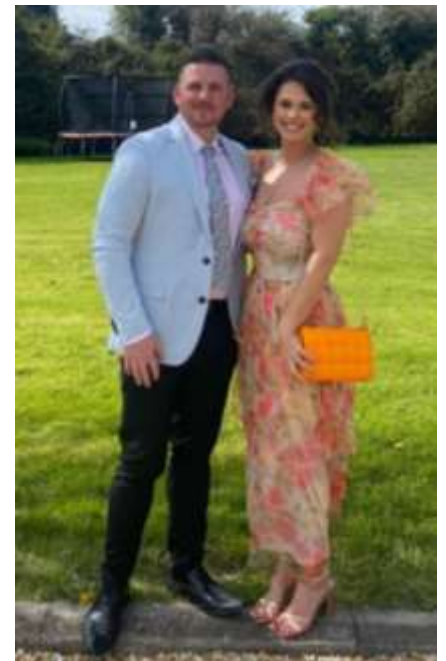
Primary 4 girls will not be the only ladies within our school to wear a beautiful white dress next Saturday!

Everyone in St. Mary's PS Gortnaghey would like to wish Miss Kerlin and her finance Mr Darren Mullan, all the very best on their wedding day next Saturday 25th May 2024. She has brought so much joy and happiness to the children and staff within our school over the years, you truly are one in a million and we are all so lucky you are part of our school community. We all hope that your wedding day is all you wish and more!!

Kind regards,

Ciara Walsh

Ciara Walsh



St. Mary's Gortnaghey Primary School

Next week:

School Dinner Menu - Week 4

Monday 20th May	<p>Irish Club week 3 – KS2 – 3-4pm</p> <p>KS2 NI Water assembly and visit</p> <p>STRIKE ACTION – all pupils to bring lunches</p>
Tuesday 21st May	<p>PE Uniform for all pupils (PE with Skill school)</p> <p>Pop Up Play – 1-2pm in the school hall for all children under school age.</p> <p>Skills School After School – P1/2, 2-3pm - P3 to P7, 3-4pm</p> <p>STRIKE ACTION – all pupils to bring lunches</p>
Wednesday 22nd May	<p>The Art and Design Factory – Art Work shop – Day 2, all pupils</p> <p>After school music club – P1/2 (all welcome) – 2-3pm with George Murphy</p> <p>After school tin whistle club – P5-7 (all welcome) – 3-4pm with George Murphy, please bring a tin whistle to be used during the club.</p>
Thursday 23rd May	<p>PE Uniform for all pupils (PE with Andrena O’Kane)</p> <p>Singing practice for all classes, between 9-12noon with Aoife Mullan</p> <p>North Derry Boys Football Championships – Glenullin, all P5/6/7 boys, bring a lunch</p> <p>NSPCC – Speak out, stay safe workshops (Primary 3 & KS2)</p> <p>GAA club for KS2 with Mr Dillon – 3 to 4pm (Can all KS2 children bring their hurls and helmets for PE and Club)</p> <p>Relaxed Kids After schools P1&2 – 2-3pm, P3/4 - 3-4pm, all welcome, please bring a small, labelled blanket.</p>
Friday 24th May	Swimming for KS2
Looking ahead...	
Saturday 25 th May	<p>First Holy Communion, Church of the Immaculate Conception, 11am</p> <p>Miss Kerlin’s Wedding</p>
Monday 27 th May	May Day Bank Holiday – school closed, reopened Tuesday 28 th May
Tuesday 28 th May	Primary 4 Communion Celebration in school
Wednesday 29 th May	<p>The Art and Design Factory – Art Work shop – Day 3, all pupils</p> <p>Primary 6 – Taster Day in Loretto</p>
Thursday 30 th May	St. Patrick’s Dungiven, Parents Transition Night
Sunday 2 nd June	Do this in memory Mass for primary 4 children, Feast of Corpus Christit

Wednesday 5 th June	Adoration Primary 1 – Nurse recalls, the school nurse will be in touch with individual parents
Thursday 6 th June	Fan the Flame Mass, primary 7 children, Celtic Park
Monday 10 th June	St Patricks Dungiven, Pupils Transition Day
Tuesday 11 th June	Sports Day 1 (weather permitting)
Thursday 13 th June	New Primary 1 intake induction and parents information afternoon, RISE NI in attendance, beginning at 1.30pm
Friday 14 th June	Final week of KS2 swimming – Fun Day Francis Lagan Finals Night, Owenbeg, 7pm
Monday 17 th June	Castle Cup - hurling and camogie, St. Patrick's Maghera
Wednesday 19 th June	Primary 7 leavers Mass & prizegiving
Thursday 20 th June	Castle Cup - football, St. Patrick's Maghera
Friday 21 st June	End of Year trip – Brunswick Complex
Tuesday 25 th June	Sports Day 2
Friday 28 th June	School Closes for Summer Holidays, 11am
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Wednesday 19 th June	Primary 7 leavers Mass & prizegiving beginning 9.15am
Thursday 20 th June	Castle Cup - football, St. Patrick's Maghera
Friday 21 st June	End of Year trip – Brunswick Complex (P1/2 collected at 3pm) STRIKE ACTION – all pupils to bring lunches
Tuesday 25 th June	Sports Day 2
Friday 28 th June	School Closes for Summer Holidays, 11am