



# Newsletter

Monday 9th March 2026



We will be on Week 4 of the dinner menu



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Sacrament Dates

**First Confession** - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 11am in Holy Family Church  
**First Holy Communion** - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 11am in Holy Family Church

## SCHOOL CLOSURES

School Closed Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March - Staff Training  
School Closed Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March - St Patrick's Day  
School Closes at 12 noon for all children on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April  
School Closed Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Holidays  
School reopens Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April

## SOCIAL MEDIA

We would like to remind parents/carers that it is recommended that children under the age of 13 should not access social media platforms such as Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook etc. We have been dealing with issues arising from inappropriate comments being made on these forums. Please regularly check your child's devices as a matter of safeguarding.

## ACTIVE TRAVEL

Whilst we encourage active travel to school, Electric Scooters and Electric Bikes are not permitted.

## KEEP THE DATE

We will be taking part in our annual Big Wheel and Walk from 23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> March.  
More details to follow

## GREEN DAY

We will celebrate our Patron Saint on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. Children can wear something green into school or their ordinary clothes. We will have some Irish music, songs and dancing. We ask for a £1 donation for TROCAIRE.

## CREDIT UNION

Newington Credit Union will be back in school every Friday from 9.15am to 9.45am. If your child has a savings book and wishes to lodge money into their account they can do it at this time.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

We had lots of fun celebrating World Book Day this week! Children from P7 visited nursery, P1 and P2 to read stories to the little ones. Everyone also enjoyed STEM activities in our Science through Stories Lessons and took part in online illustration workshops.

We even quizzed the adults at KS1 assembly - well done to Mrs Shannon who was victorious for P1!

## SAFEGUARDING

The Designated Teacher for Child Protection is **Miss McGranaghan**. The Deputy Designated Teachers are **Mrs McCallan**, **Mrs McDowell** and **Mrs Shannon**. If you have any worries, questions or concerns about safeguarding or child protection issues please contact the Primary School on 02890351023.

If you are concerned about the wellbeing of a child, you can also make a confidential call to Gateway on 02890 507000.

## PUPIL SUPPORT

### RISE NI

RISE NI (Regional Integrated Support for Education NI) supports children in schools by working closely with parents and school staff to help children develop the foundation skills for learning. RISE NI works in partnership with school using a tiered approach. Below is the link to the website which parents may find helpful: <https://view.pagetiger.com/RISENI/parent>

### SCHOOL BASED COUNSELLING

We are very fortunate to once again have the counselling services of June Dunwoody in school this year. June will be working with children from P5-7. If you feel that your child would benefit from counselling, please speak to the class teacher or contact Miss McGranaghan, to be added to the waiting list.

## PARENT SUPPORT

### FAMILY SUPPORT HUB

Family Support Hub Network offers a range of services to support children, young people and their parents/carers. If you would like to avail of this service speak to Miss McGranaghan or contact the Hub directly on 02890749986. Hub co-ordinator is Edith McManus.

### PARENT COURSES

Keep an eye on our parent noticeboards at the school doors for information on upcoming courses for parents - there are plenty of opportunities!

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Regular school attendance is crucial in raising standards in education and ensuring that every child can reach their full potential. We are urging all parents to make attendance a priority this year. Children should be in school on time, every day unless they are ill. If your child cannot come to school, please ring the school absence line on 02890351023 and leave a message to provide a reason for their absence. This is only required on the first day of absence.

