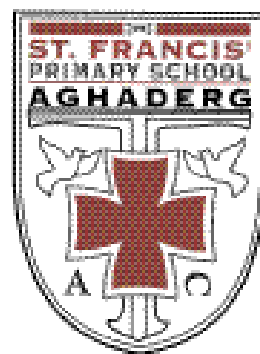


ST FRANCIS' PRIMARY SCHOOL

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1st March 2017

Dear Parents,

Please note the following:

1. Ash Wednesday: 1st March

Wednesday 1st March is Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. Primary 4-7 children will be attending Mass in St Patrick's Church Loughbrickland at 10.00am. Fr. Corr will visit the school to distribute ashes to the Primary 1-3 children at 11.00am.

2. NI Assembly Elections: 2nd March

The school will be **CLOSED** on Thursday 2nd March for the Assembly elections.

3. World Book Day: 3rd March

March is World Book Month; we will start the month's activities by celebrating World Book Day on Friday 3rd March. Children are encouraged to come to school dressed up as a character from a book and to bring in the book as well.

4. St Patrick's Day: 16th March

The school will be closed on St Patrick's Day, 17th March; Thursday 16th March will be a non-uniform 'Green Day'. Children can wear something green (but please be sensitive to others) and make a donation of £1 to Trocaire.

5. PTA Bring & Buy Sale Thursday 16th March.

The PTA requests your support for the upcoming Bring and Buy sale in school on Thursday 16th March from 1.15 until 3.00pm. Each class will be given the opportunity to provide gifts for the sale and to purchase items from it (the PTA suggests an upper limit of £5 per child). Some of the children will also be baking buns for the sale. Parents are also welcome to attend from 1.45 until 2.30pm. Remember YOU can help by: donating goods for the sale, helping out or by attending the sale.

6. Religious Ceremonies

First Confessions for Primary 3 children is on **Tuesday 28th March** in St Patrick's Church, Loughbrickland at 7.00pm.

The **Service of Light** for Primary 7 children will be on **Tuesday 4th April** in St Patrick's Church, Loughbrickland at 7.30pm.

7. Irish News 'GAA Coaching' Competition

For all Irish News readers we are entering the Primary School 'GAA Coaching' competition; we would ask you to collect the tokens and return them to school by 20th March.

8. Copper Challenge

Children are encouraged to bring in 1p and 2p coins for the Lenten Copper Challenge. All money raised will go to the school's Trocaire campaign.

Yours sincerely
Donal McNally
(Principal)