



Dear Parents, Guardians and friends of St. Joseph's,

We can't believe that January is over already and Christmas seems like a distant memory!

### **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME**

Please find below the dates we have so far for the sacramental programme this year as agreed with the Parish. These will be in every newsletter for your information and any changes will be sent immediately by text. Well done to all of the children who have enrolled for their sacraments at the Sunday Masses- we look forward to their big celebrations later this year.

#### **P3 Sacrament of Penance (First Confession)**



9 April at 1.30 Sacrament of First Penance. Children will be collected from school at 12.00 and should come to the church with their parents.

#### **P4 Sacrament of First Holy Communion**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month after enrolment, Special Sunday masses for First Communion children 11am in the church



04 May 11am First Communion

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 11am Corpus Christi Mass – Children to attend in First Communion outfits

#### **P7 Confirmation**

19 March 2019 7pm Service of Light in the Church



3 April 2019 12 noon Confirmation

9 May All day P7 Retreat day and Pledge Mass

### **WRAPAROUND CARE**

Please contact the school office and book a place if you require it for the February Mid-term. As usual, if there are not enough children to run on any particular day we will not be able to operate.

### **PTA**

A huge thank you to you all for supporting the PTA Christmas Breakfast. It is always lovely to see our families coming together and congratulations to all who won a prize in the raffle!

### **SHARED EDUCATION**

P.5 are taking part in their shared topic work with Greystone P.S. this term and are having a ball! Their topic is Technology Over Time and they are looking forward to visiting W5 on 26<sup>th</sup> February together!

### **RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS**

The Article 12 Society are continuing their meetings with Mr McGinley to discuss aspects of the school that affect them. They agreed awards for the class token collections and are now working on revising the promoting positive behaviour policy.

### **GOOD NEWS** [rtreacy776@c2kni.net](mailto:rtreacy776@c2kni.net)

A big well done to Keilah from P.7 who not only had an amazing haircut and looks fabulous, but donated her hair to raise funds for The Little Princess Trust. She raised an amazing £250. The Trust is a charity that provide wigs for children and young adults that have had cancer or other illnesses resulting in hair loss. We are so proud of her!!



Her photo will also let you put a face to the name- Keilah is also the child who drew the staff pictures on the school website. If you have not already had a look, please visit and check out the staff section of the website- Mrs Treacy says thanks for making her look so young!!

Congratulations to all of our P.7 pupils who have now completed their transfer process. The boys and girls who sat the grammar entrance exams worked very hard and we are so proud of them. Thank you to

all of the Post Primary Schools and parents who joined us for our Post-Primary Fair. Children and parents have selected which schools to apply for and all that remains is to await placement letters in June. We hope that the P.7s enjoy their last few terms with us.

**Applications for P1** using the new online process have now closed. Please let anyone now if they still need a place for their nursery child they need to call at the school to complete a late application paper copy. Just ask at the office for details. If you have already applied online remember to call at the office to leave in a copy of your child's birth certificate.

### SCHOOL GROUNDS DEVELOPMENT

We are in the process of trying to draw up plans for the development of the school grounds. We are so lucky in the space and facilities that we have and want to make the most of them. Having a fully consulted upon plan will help us to apply for funding to help our dreams to come true! Over the next few months we will be inviting parents, children, community groups and members of the parish to consult on the plans and be part of the process. The planners will be meeting with our Article 12 Society and Eco councils and we would love to know what you think too. We will let you know of our consultation arrangements- please take part if you can!

### EXTENDED SCHOOLS

We are delighted to welcome back the Fresh Little Minds group who are running an afterschools programme and working with our P.7 Pupils on a programme of self awareness and fun!

P.6 and P.7 are also taking part in drama classes with Ryan from Uplift and loving every minute!

The Primary 1, 2 and 3 classes will all be working with Jump, Jiggle and Jive dance and fitness classes this term and we are all looking forward to our African drumming day in March. This is a busy time of the year!

### CHARITY FUNDRAISING

Naomhan's dad (P.1) is running the Belfast marathon for charity and has asked for our help. He is hoping to raise money for the Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (PWSA). We are having a 'brown' day on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February when we are asking everyone to bring in brown coins, or any other donations, on this day.



Many thanks in advance for all of your support.

### SUSTRANS PROGRAMME



The Eco Council have again been working with Johnny from Sustrans on how to make our journeys to school healthier. He has met with P4 and P5 on making safe journeys and the history of the bike. Watch this space for an exciting event- in March the children will be able to 'Bling' their bikes, scooters or Flickr's for a transport fashion show- you can start thinking about your ideas now for March!



### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

A big thank you to all of our families and especially our Grandparents who attended our opening of Catholic Schools week mass on Monday and our special thanksgiving assembly on Wednesday. The children loved performing their songs, poems and prayers and having the opportunity to celebrate all that their Grandparents do for them. We also remember those Grandparents who are no longer with us. Thank you also to Fr. James who attended the celebrations and blessed the hands of our Grandparents.



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Please look out for our regular texts for reminders and notifications of new events.**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February** – The 100<sup>th</sup> Day of schools- listen out for special maths activities on this day. Please have a look at maths newsletter attached to this one!

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** – Closed for Mid-term break. School opens again on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February,

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February** –P5 Shared Education trip to W5. Celebration event for all parents will be on 5<sup>th</sup> March in St Joseph's.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 11.00am-** Special Assembly to celebrate St Patrick's Day.

