



# St. Mary's Primary School

## Parents' Newsletter

February 2018 Issue 92

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### Shared Education

Term 2 and this month of February will see both St Mary's and Ballytrea PS getting into their shared lessons in each other's schools. The Shared Education Signature Project is a Department of Education 4 year funded project, promoting pupil's learning together to deliver educational benefits. Parents of pupils who will be taking part in Shared Lessons (Mrs McBride's and Mrs Duffy's classes) will see some of the learning through their homework activities. We would be grateful if those parents would complete the comment slip that will be provided and return to the class teacher. This year too we have been able to secure funding for resources at the outdoor learning area in school. Parents of our P1 pupils would be able to see this area growing and developing as their children's year has progressed. Please check out the dedicated 'Shared Education' section on the school website for up to date photographs.

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### Primary 7 Pupils

**Confirmation Ceremony: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April** in Church of the Holy Family, Coalisland @ 5pm

#### Primary 4 Pupils

**First Confession : Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March** in St Mary's Church, Stewartstown @7:30pm

**First Holy Communion:** will be celebrated on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 11 am** in St Mary's Church, Stewartstown

### Practice Makes Perfect!

Please ensure that if your child has taken a place with Donald in the traditional music group in school that they take the much needed time to practice the pieces that they have been given.

We recognise the effort that is required to play their instrument and play it well, and to keep doing it until they master the tune... even if it's hard. But such **perseverance** will pay dividends for your child when they meet some daunting challenges in the years to come.

### FEIS OILEAIN AGUS CLUAINE

Coalisland Feis will take place this year again in March in the Parochial Centre, Coalisland.

There will be a £1 entrance fee for the feis. Envelopes and date will be distributed shortly and once again the staff will help prepare the children for their stories. We hope as many pupils avail of this very worthwhile community feis.

### MID TERM BREAK

Mid Term Break this year is Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February



### Birthdays Celebrations in February

**Lisa Mulgrew  
Tyler Archer  
Cara O'Hanlon  
Shea Monaghan  
Callum Taggart  
Clodagh Smith  
James Hughes  
Patrick Coyle  
Kaiden O'Neill  
Martina Newell**

### Transfer Pupils

Thanks to all P7 parents who completed their Transfer form for their son or daughter. The forms will be sent to the Education Authority this week for processing. It's hard to believe that the P7 pupils are at this final last stage of their Primary Education.

A letter informing you of which post-primary school your child has been placed at will be posted on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018 – arriving with you on **Sat 19<sup>th</sup> May**.

### Trocaire- Healthy Breaks

This year our fundraising effort for Trocaire will commence after the mid-term break.

This will be in conjunction with our 'Break Time Healthy Snack' sale for three days a week in school- Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Healthy snacks will be available to purchase at 20p each.

Each pupil in every class will be asked to contribute to the sale.

Mr Reilly's class will start week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> February. Mr McGahan's w/b: 26<sup>th</sup> Feb, Mrs Hamill's w/b: 5<sup>th</sup> March, Mrs Duffy w/b: 12<sup>th</sup> March and Mrs McBride's w/b: 20<sup>th</sup> March

Further details will be sent home when their turn comes around.

## Work Experience

It is really lovely to see some of our past pupils returning to school to experience it on the other side (so to speak). This month we welcome pupils from Holy Trinity College and St Patrick's, Academy. We hope they enjoy their work experience with us and continue with their career aspirations.

## Internet Safety for Pupils and Parents

Internet Safety week will be soon upon us. To start us off, P5-7 pupils from our own and Stewartstown P.S. will be attending an online safety workshop hosted by Constable Marty Allen here at St Mary's on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

Stewartstown PS will host an Internet Safety workshop for our Parents on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February in Stewartstown PS, starting at 7pm.** All parents are welcome to attend.

**Thanks to Karen Shiels from RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds)** who not only helped Mrs Hamill's class look for and count the birds in our school grounds but also had time to talk to the Primary 1 children about the great work that they are doing feeding the birds during winter.

Karen is always full of praise of the children at school and loves to see them engage with their school environment. She is a real advocate for outdoor hands on learning!

## DATES FOR THE FEBRUARY DIARY

Date	Event
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs Duffy's class assembly
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Internet Safety workshop P5-7 pupils
6 <sup>th</sup>	Drumming - P3 and 4 pupils
9 <sup>th</sup>	P7 class attending Poetry workshop with 'Writers in Residence'
14 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday
15 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup>	Mid Term Break
19 <sup>th</sup>	Internet Safety Talk for parents 7pm
20 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Duffy's & Mrs McBride's class Shared Education with Ballytrea PS

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March – School Closed  
St Patrick's Day.**

## Erasmus +

Mrs McBride has uploaded information regarding the first of the professional development courses to European countries funded by Erasmus.

She attended a course in Italy with teachers from Poland and Finland. Together they discussed strategies and methodologies for improving children's learning experiences in school.

Check out the school website and Erasmus page where you can see some of the places she visited.



## FEBRUARY SCHOOL MEALS



Week commencing;	5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	26 <sup>th</sup> Feb
<b>Monday</b>	Savoury Mince and Pasta Steak Burger Peas/Carrots/Gravy Pasta and Mashed Pots Shortbread and Custard	Pasta Bolognaise Grilled Bacon Turnip/Peas/Pasta Mashed Pots/Gravy Chocolate Muffin and Custard	Savoury Mince Fish Fingers Peas/Carrots Mashed Pots/Pasta/Gravy Jam Sponge and Custard	Irish Stew Butchers Burger Carrots/Peas Pasta/Mashed Pots/Gravy Flakemeal Biscuit/Fruit/Custard
<b>Tuesday</b>	Pizza Chicken Wrap Peas/Corn Chips /Pasta/Mashed Pots/Gravy Swiss Roll and Custard	Hot Dog Tuna Wraps Chips/Mashed Pots/Gravy Salad/Peas /Corn Pancake and Fruit	Chicken Nuggets Tuna Wraps Beans/Peas Mashed Pots/Pasta/Gravy Semolina and Peaches	Pizza /Chips Lasagne Peas/Corn/Coleslaw Mashed Pots/Gravy Artic Roll and Fruit
<b>Wednesday</b>	Roast Chicken and Stuffing Broccoli and Carrots Mashed Pots/Pasta/Gravy Jelly and Fruit	Fish Fingers Cheese and Tomato Pizza Beans/Peas/Pasta Chips/Mashed Pots & Gravy Chocolate Cookie & Custard	Pizza Chilli Chicken Wrap Beans/Peas/Pasta Chips/Mashed Pots/Gravy Swiss Roll and Custard and Fruit	Chicken Curry and Rice Fish in Crumbs Beans /Peas Mashed Pots/ Gravy Fruit Sponge and Custard
<b>Thursday</b>	Chicken Curry and Rice Fish Fingers Beans/Peas/Gravy Mashed Pot/Gravy Semolina and Peaches	School Closed Mid Term Break	Roast Chicken and Stuffing Broccoli and Carrots Mashed Pots/Pasta/Gravy Krispie Square and Custard	Roast Turkey Stuffing Carrots and Broccoli Pasta/Mashed Potato/Gravy Rice Pudding and Peaches
<b>Friday</b>	Chicken Nuggets/Chips Tuna Wrap Sweetcorn/Salad/Pasta Mashed Pots/Gravy Frozen Mousse and Fruit	School Closed Mid Term Break	Home-made Chicken/Veg Soup Selection of Bread Butchers Burger and Bap Salad and Cheese Ice-Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Hot Dog/Chips Tuna Roll Mixed Salad/Pasta Corn /Pots/Gravy Fairy Cake/Fruit/Custard

Milk & Water available daily. If a Child has an allergy, please contact the Principal/Unit Catering Supervisor

