

# St. Mary's Primary School



## New Faces in Primary 1



Pictured are the new Primary 1 pupils who have started school.

We welcome Ava, Dara, Sean, Jack, Ryan, Padraig, Farrah, Katie, Clara, Lucas, Darragh and Katie.

We also welcome Codie to P3 and Eva to P5. We hope that our new pupils settle in and enjoy their first year.



## School Assembly

Mrs Mullin's P5-6

Class will present an Assembly on **Friday 25th October at 1.30pm.**

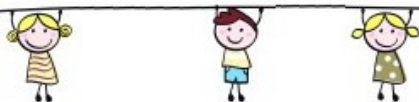
All parents, families and friends are welcome to attend.

## School Closure

The school will close Half Day on **Wednesday 30th October.**

School will be closed **Thursday 31st October, Friday 1st & Monday 4th November** (School Development Day).

## Shared Education



from the Shared Education Signature Programme.

St. Mary's, in partnership, with Newmills PS have secured funding again, for 2019-20



P5-6 will take part in a Poetry Workshop with Author/Poet Paul Cookson on Monday 7th October in the Burnavon, Cookstown.



## St. Mary's School Motto is:

*Caring, Sharing and Learning Together*



## Afternoon Tea



Staff and pupils of St. Mary's PS, are hosting an Afternoon Tea, on Friday

11th October, from 1-3pm, in the School Sports Hall. This year all proceeds will go to Meningitis Research, a charity which is now very close to our hearts in St. Mary's!!

Everyone is invited to come along for a cuppa and chat and support this worthy cause.



# School Uniform

Parents are asked to ensure that their child's name is clearly marked on all school uniform, coats, school bags, lunch boxes and P.E. clothing. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated. Many thanks in advance.

## Sickness in School

Should your child feel unwell in school, we will contact you to let you know and, if necessary, arrange for collection. It is therefore vitally important that the school has up-to-date contact details for parents— as well as a contact number in case of Emergency. Please contact Majella in the school office if your details have changed. It is also the policy of our school to make contact with parents should your child receive a bump to the head. It is then left to parents' own discretion whether the child stays in school or is taken home. Please see notes on Concussion below.

### WHAT IS CONCUSSION?

A concussion is a brain injury which is usually caused by hitting your head or a fall. Concussions must be taken seriously. It is important to be able to recognise the signs and know how to respond.

### SPOT THE SIGNS

If your child has been hit on the head or fallen, you need to look out for signs like these:

- A headache
- Feeling dazed or confused
- Feeling drowsy or sleepy
- Feeling sick
- Feeling 'irritable' or 'in a fog'
- Having difficulty remembering things
- Any other change in normal behaviour

Concussion does not always involve losing consciousness; you must take any of these symptoms seriously.

## Get prepared for P.E.!

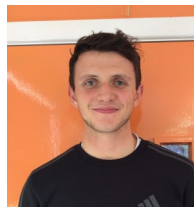
Please ensure your child has brought in their P.E. Kit. This kit should be left in school so that P.E. lessons & Afterschool Clubs are not missed when children forget their gear. Children will then be encouraged to bring the kit home half-termly for washing.

### School PE Uniform

Plain white round neck T-Shirt and navy shorts  
or  
School sports kit jersey and school kit shorts  
Trainers  
Navy track suit bottoms for outdoors

## Best Wishes

We send our Best Wishes to Mrs Girvan on her Maternity Leave. We wish her well for the arrival of Baby Girvan.



We welcome Mr Ronan Nugent who will teach P7 in Mrs Girvan's absence.

## Oxford Owl Maths

[www.oxfordowl.co.uk/maths/](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/maths/)

Check out 'Oxford Owl Maths' online – a free website to help support you and your child with maths ideas. Designed for children aged 3-7, you'll find age-specific maths advice, tips and lots of fun ideas, games and e-books to help you enjoy maths with your child.

A website is also available to develop children's reading at:

[www.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/)

## Linguistic Phonics

The school adopts a 'Linguistic' approach to the teaching of Phonics. This approach provides children with strategies to help them problem-solve words for both reading and writing. There are five principles that underpin Linguistic Phonics:

1. Sounds are represented by letters.
2. A sound may be presented by one or more letter.
3. The same sound can be represented in more than one way.
4. Longer words are made up of syllables.
5. The same spelling may represent more than one sound.

Listen to the sounds at

[www.focusonphonics.co.uk/sound.htm](http://www.focusonphonics.co.uk/sound.htm)

## School Events During October

- ◆ Weekly Drama lessons with Mrs Stephanie Gormley
- ◆ RELAX KIDS will continue for all pupils.
- ◆ P5-7 Gaelic lessons take place on Wednesdays with Conor Gormley
- ◆ Weekly Irish lessons will commence on Wednesday 9th October for P5-7, with Miss Susanna McKenna
- ◆ P5-6 will take part in Poetry workshop with Author/Poet Paul Cookson on Monday 7th October in Burnavon,

Cookstown.

- ◆ P1-2 will visit Dungannon Library on Wednesday 9th October
- ◆ Pupils will celebrate Maths Week with whole school activities on Thursday 17th October.
- ◆ Flu Vaccine will be administered to all pupils on Friday 18th October
- ◆ Annual Hallowe'en Disco on Tuesday 30th October 6-8pm. £3 per child