

St. Mary's Primary School



A BIG Welcome to Our New Pupils in Primary 1

Pictured are the new Primary 1 pupils who have started school. We welcome Jude, Jayden, Caolán, Joseph, Dylan, Jake and Dáire.

. We hope that our new pupils settle in and enjoy their Primary 1. year here in St. Mary's PS.



Please return all school reading books & library books from last year. These are needed for the new school year and are very expensive to



Mrs Girvan's P5-6 Class will present an Assembly on **Friday 30th September at 1.15pm.**

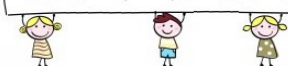
School Assembly

Mrs Hughes' P3-4 Class will present their Assembly on **Thursday 27th October at 1.15pm.** All parents, family members and friends are very welcome to attend. We are looking forward to having everyone back into school.



Staff and pupils of St. Mary's PS, are hosting a Tea & Coffee Morning, on Friday 14th October, from 9.30-11.30am, in the School Sports Hall. This year all proceeds will go to Charis Cancer Care. Everyone is invited to come along for a cuppa and chat and support this worthy cause.

Shared Education



St. Mary's, in partnership, with Newmills PS have secured funding again, for the Shared Education Programme.

Flu Vaccine

Children will receive their Flu vaccine in school, on Monday 17th October. This will be administered by the school nurse.



SCHOOL MOTTO

'Caring, Sharing and Learning Together'



Please keep up-to-date through our website and the Schools NI App



The New School Day

Firstly, we would like to thank everyone for their support during the first month back at school. Everyone is very glad to be back! We appreciate your co-operation with our new start & finish times, one-way drop off & pick up system. Thanks! We have several events planned for this term as we are keen to get parents, family members and the community back into school. Looking forward to seeing you all soon!!

School Closure

School will close Half Day on **Friday 28th October** (Child Protection Training for staff) for midterm break and reopen on **Monday 7th November.**

(School Development Day)
Friday 4th November

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 change. 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 or not the child remains in school.

If your child feels unwell in the morning, before school, please keep them at home!!

School Uniform

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

Please ensure your child wears their P.E. Kit to school on their PE day.

We thank parents for your co-operation with this.

School PE Uniform

Plain white round neck T-Shirt & navy shorts
or
School sports kit
Trainers
Navy tracksuit bottoms & school sweatshirt or halfzip

Get prepared for P.E.!



Hallowe'en at St.Mary's

To celebrate Hallowe'en, this year, the children are asked to carve a pumpkin and bring it into school on Thursday 27th October for our 'Pumpkin Parade'. There will be a Hallowe'en Disco that evening from 6-8pm, £3 per child. Children are asked to come along in fancy dress, to enjoy some dancing and snacks.



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.

Oxford Owl Maths

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/

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

School Events During October

- ◆ Afterschool Continue Monday–Thursday
- ◆ Weekly Assembly every Friday morning
- ◆ Weekly Swimming Lessons for P5-7 (Mondays)
- ◆ Weekly EA Music Lessons with Mrs McSherry (Mondays)
- ◆ Weekly Drama lessons with Stephanie (Tuesdays)
- ◆ Weekly Mindfulness classes with Sarah (Thursdays)
- ◆ Fundamental Movement Skills & Gaelic with Emma P1-4 (Mondays) P5-7 (Fridays).

- ◆ Non–Uniform Day Friday 7th October
- ◆ P1-2 Pupils will visit the library on Monday 10th October.
- ◆ P3-4 Pupils will visit the library on Thursday 13th October
- ◆ P5-7 Pupils will visit the library on Thursday 20th October.
- ◆ Pupils will celebrate Maths Week 13th–21st October.



More school news from St.Mary's PS next month!