



# OCTOBER'S EVENTS

## SAFETY NOTICE

**CHURCH CAR PARK:** It is at this time every year that I need to highlight the difficulties and dangers around drop-off and collection of your child/ren. Already this year we have had two incidents where children have been injured in the church car park. I am asking that all parents exercise extreme caution. To alleviate the difficulty of congestion we are suggesting that all parents make a **LEFT TURN** when exiting the car park. **Please use the designated parking spaces or drop off zone.** Children may be left in the playground from **8.45am** when supervision commences. No child should be left before this time. Parents who need to drop their child off earlier should register with the Breakfast Club through School Money Online. Teaching will begin at 9am.

**WAITING AT THE GATE:** Thank you all for your support and cooperation in the mornings whilst leaving your children to school through the main entrance. We would encourage parents not to wait at the gate once they have left their child to school. There are a number of reasons for this. Firstly, by leaving your child off and moving off-site you are freeing up limited parking spaces. Secondly, it can be difficult for children to enter through the gate when parents are gathered there. Finally, as the gate is in close proximity to the entrance of the car park we want to make every effort to ensure that no accidents occur. We would appreciate your cooperation in this matter as the safety of our children is our primary concern. Please pass this information on to anyone who will be responsible for leaving or collecting your child.

**ALLERGIES:** As we have a growing number of children with nut allergies we ask that foods containing nut products are not included for lunch or break. Please avoid sending in sesame seed products e.g. sesame snaps, seeded breads or crackers. **We also ask that parents do not send cakes/sweets in for the class on birthdays as some of these will also contain nuts or nut traces.**

**Curriculum Morning:** Many thanks to all the parents who attended the Curriculum Talks. This year the percentage attendance was 55%, a slight increase from 51% attendance the previous year. Following your feedback we intend, certainly for next year, to continue with this practice of holding the meetings at 9am. Curriculum Booklets and Curriculum Presentation can be printed from the school website <https://stmarysonthehill.co.uk/curriculum/>

### Dates for your Diary:

**Tuesday 1 October**

P4A Library Visit

**Thursday 3 October**

P2 Visit from the PSNI

**Thursday 3 October**

P1: First Full Day—2pm Finish

**Thursday 3 October & Friday 4 October (PLEASE NOTE)**

School Photographer

**Tuesday 8 October**

P1 Phonics Workshop—8.45am

**Thursday 10 October**

Mental Maths/Problem Solving Evening for P3, P4 & P5 parents—7pm

**Wednesday 16 October**

P2 Visit to Glengormley Fire Station

**Friday 18 October**

Sponsored Bounce & Take Away Lunch

**Tuesday 22 October**

P7 Parental Meeting: Residential trip to Carlingford—2pm. Details to follow.



**Fancy Dress:**

Halloween fancy dress for those pupils who wish to participate—25th October 2019.

**Fire Safety Day:** A representative from the Fire Service will visit the school on Friday 25th October to talk to all pupils regarding Firework Safety.

**Halloween Disco:** The PTA have organised a disco for P1-P3—1pm—1.45pm. P4-P7—2pm—3pm—Friday 25th October. The cost is £2.50 per pupil or £5.00 per family.

**Bounceathon:** St Mary's on the Hill PTA Annual Bounceathon will take place on Friday 18th October. This is a great fundraiser for the school and sponsor sheets will follow with your child shortly.

**St Mary's on the Hill is delighted to be selected to take part in the Forest School Project delivered by the Northern Ireland Forest School Association as part of the 'learning without walls' initiative. Forest School is based on the Scandinavian idea that considers children's contact with nature to be extremely important from an early age. This is an exciting and innovative educational experience that has been hugely beneficial to all those taking part. Primary 2B will be involved in this project for 6 weeks starting in October.**

**Mid-term Break** The school will be closed for one week from Monday 28th October until Friday 1st November.

## CONGRATULATIONS - PUPIL OF THE MONTH

P1A	Julie Borkowska Matthew Kelly	P1B	Aidan Donnelly Iona McMahon
P2A	Lexi Kemp Aidan Hughes	P2B	Konstanty Bukowski Cara Dunlop
P3A	Katie McCann Lorcan McGarvey	P3B	Ruari McMullan Tiana Dellish-Vamattam
P4A	Charlie McGuigan Erin McGuigan	P4B	Evie Wilson Conor McKinley
P5A	Eva Cassidy Dominik Szymanski	P5B	Caolan McCready Norah Kavanagh- McLaughlin
P6A	Joshua Callow Kabisha Chhetri	P6B	Natalia Kornacka Deaglan Davis- McAtamney
P7A	Michael Jennings Maria Forte	P7B	Zuzanna Stachura Orlaith McKenna

Photographs are displayed in the main foyer of the school.

### OPEN MORNING

Children who are due to start P1 or Playgroup in September 2020 are invited, along with parents, to attend our open morning on Friday 6th December 2019 at 9.30am-11.00am.

Congratulations to our ECO warriors—with their help we worked together to reduce energy costs.

P1A: Kyla Logue, Caolan McLaughlin & Lennon Ross  
P1B: Ciara McCleave, Conor O'Neill & Jude McGlone  
P2A: Yousif Almoh, Riona Gallagher & Louisa Smyth  
P2B: Paul Boyle, Konstanty Bukowski & Riley Callaghan  
P3A: Abby McGlone, Clodagh Keenan & Hannah Caddell  
P3B: Ruari McMullan, Adam Grzona & Tess Mullan  
P4A: Erin McGuigan, Natalia Czyz & Patrick McReynolds  
P4B: Sophie Agnew, Niamh Boyle & Joe Brennan  
P5A: Naomi Adams, Kryspin Biernat & Cara Caddell  
P5B: Ava McStravick, Gabriela Maksymiuk & Jake Kemp  
P6A: Cillian McMullan, Niamh Doran & Jack Moran  
P6B: Andrea Bradley, Harry Cranston & Fionn Marley  
P7A: Joel Hanna, Aaron Connolly & Lucy McFarlane  
P7B: Niamh Scott, Cara Gallagher & Ella Magennis

### Maths Week

Many thanks to Mrs Thompson, our Numeracy Coordinator, who has planned an exciting week with the teachers for Maths Week Ireland which runs from Monday 7 October—Friday 11th October 2019.

**P3, P4 & P5 Mental Maths/Problem Solving Evening on Thursday 8th October @ 7pm.**

### WAITING CLUB

The Waiting Club is available to all pupils in P1, P2 and P3 and runs daily from 2pm—3pm. The cost of this facility is £2.50 per day. Further details please contact the school office—028 9083 6284.

### P3, P4, P5

#### Mental Maths/Problem Solving Workshop

The focus for this year in Numeracy is the continuation of developing problem solving strategies for the pupils. In order for parents to support us in this endeavour we will host a workshop for parents on Thursday 10th October at 7pm in the school assembly hall. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

#### P1 Phonics Workshop

A Phonics Workshop will take place for parents of P1 pupils in the school assembly hall, on Tuesday 8th October at 8.45am. Miss Taggart/Mrs McCluskey and Miss Johnston will demonstrate a range of phonics activities which your child will be participating in during their P1 year and explain how phonics is taught in the classroom. Coffee/tea will be served after the Phonics Workshop from 9.30am to give parents an opportunity to acquaint themselves with other parents of P1 children.

Please note a P1 Blending Workshop will take place on Tuesday 26th November at 8.45am. Further details to follow.

#### Class Masses

P6—Tuesday 1st October @ 9.30am  
P7—Tuesday 8th October @ 9.30am  
P5—Tuesday 15th October @ 9.30am  
P4—Tuesday 22nd October @ 9.30am

#### Parental Assemblies

P3A—Wednesday 2nd October @ 9.20am  
P4A—Friday 11th October @ 9.20am  
P3B—Thursday 24th October @ 9.20am

#### School Council

Good luck to all the boys and girls who are currently writing their manifesto for election to the school council. The pupil voice has made a big difference to what goes on within the school. We look forward to seeing who will be elected and what they will do for the pupil body this year. The deputy mayor will attend the investiture ceremony for the school council on 3rd December at 9.30am. Those parents of children elected are invited to attend. Details to follow.

#### School Book Fair

Our annual School Book Fair will take place from Monday 11th—Friday 15th November. Pupils in each class will have an opportunity to browse and purchase books during the school day. Parents are welcome at the following times:

Tuesday – Friday morning 8.45 – 9.15am  
Monday – Thursday afternoon 2.10 – 2.30pm &  
3.10 – 3.30pm