



# NOVEMBER'S EVENTS

## SAFETY NOTICE

**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 in for the class on birthdays as some of these will also contain nuts or nut traces.

**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, new signage is being produced to indicate this.

**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. **Please pass this information on to anyone who will be responsible for leaving or collecting your child.**

### **Anti-Bullying Week—Change Starts With Us 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November**

Over the course of the year, in St Mary's on the Hill, we have had a very proactive curriculum which helps us to reduce the number of Bullying episodes recorded in the school. Through the pupils' PDMU programme, circle time activities, religion programme and ICT lessons, we limit the amount of relationship issues that can develop into bullying. We also encourage and seek the help of outside agencies such as the NSPCC to deliver assemblies to support the pupils in our school. During Anti-Bullying week, the children will participate in a range of activities on the topic of Anti-Bullying.

O2 and NSPCC have joined forces and will run a workshop in school for parents/carers on Wednesday 14th November at 9.15am in the assembly hall. The one-hour workshop will help parents/carers understand their child's online world and build confidence to have those conversations that can help children to stay safe online. **St Mary's on the Hill Pastoral Care and Anti-Bullying Policies are available on the school website.**

### **REMINDER:**

#### **PPTC Transfer Test Transfer Test**

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> November 2019

#### **AQE Transfer Test**

Dates: 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>th</sup> November & 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019

### **Workshops:**

P7 Victorians: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019

P6 Vikings: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019

### **Transition Questionnaire**

Thank you to all the primary one parents/guardians who completed the October Transition Questionnaire. The responses were very positive and highlighted a smooth transition for our primary one children this year. The school will look at the suggestions made and, as far as reasonably possible, make changes to include them in next year's transition process.

### **Christmas Holiday**

School closes at 12.00 noon on Friday 20th December 2019 and reopens on Tuesday 7th January 2020

### **Spring Half Term**

**School closes at 12 noon on Friday 14th February** and is closed for one week from Monday 17th to Friday 21st February. The school will reopen on Monday 24th February 2020

### **School Closure**

Friday 22nd November 2020—Parent Teacher Consultations

### **St Patrick's Day**

Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th March 2020

### **Easter Holidays**

School closes at 12.00 noon on Holy Thursday 9th April and reopens on Monday 20th April 2020

### **May Bank Holiday**

School closed on Friday 8th May 2020

### **School Closures**

School will be closed on Friday 22nd & Monday 25th May and reopens on Tuesday 26th May 2020

**School Year** finishes at 12.00 noon on Tuesday 30th June 2020

### **The Charities we have nominated to support this year are:**

Term One—Friends of the Cancer Centre

Term Two—Trocaire

Term Three—Age Concern

A huge thank you to the PTA for organising and helping out at the BOUNCEATHON. Thank you also to our parents and all who contributed to this fun day and helped us raise a fantastic £3,128.18!



## CONGRATULATIONS - PUPIL OF THE MONTH-

P1A	Lennon Ross Caragh Douglas	P1B	Lauryn O'Kane James McMullan
P2A	Olivia Black Yousif Almoh	P2B	Adam Krol Zara Reilly
P3A	Hannah Caddell Matthew Connolly	P3B	Tess Mullan Tom Donnelly
P4A	Natalia Czyz Dillon Foy	P4B	Otylia Tarnowska Grace Doyle
P5A	Eabha McLaughlin Rory Cheadle	P5B	JoeEager Mia Callaghan
P6A	Charlie McGarvey Miley Pollock	P6B	Megan Mooney Bobby O'Kane
P7A	Olivia Paul Ben UPrichard	P7B	Justyna Lesniak Niamh Mullan

Photographs are displayed in the main foyer of the school.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL HAMPERS:** Contributions for this year's hampers can be forwarded to the school from the week beginning Monday 18th November to Monday 2nd December.

**P1 PRAYER SERVICE:** A Prayer Service for our P1 pupils will be held on Thursday 5th December at 1.10 – 2pm in the school Assembly Hall.

### THE MAYOR'S VISIT

Pupils have been busy writing their manifestos for the position of school councillor and will be voting shortly. An Investiture Ceremony, led by the Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey, will take place on Monday 2nd December at 9.30am in the School Assembly Hall for those pupils elected and their parents. Light refreshments will be available after the ceremony.

**REMINDER:** Our PE uniform is:

- Plain White Polo Shirt;
- Navy Shorts/ Navy Tracksuit Bottoms
- Black Plimsolls /Black Trainers

We ask that the navy shorts/tracksuit bottoms are **plain with no logos**. Thank you for your cooperation.

### OPEN MORNING:

Children who are due to start P1 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 can work together to reduce energy costs.

P1A: Anna Thompson, Sophie McGuigan, Mason McMenamy  
P1B: Max O'Hanlon, Lauryn O'Kane, Enda Welsh  
P2A: Olivia Black, Aidan Hayes, Lexi Kemp  
P2B: Erin Carr, Jacob Cassidy, Dillan Conlan  
P3A: Sophie Cranston, Noah Devlin, Liam Mulhollandald  
P3B: Madison Russell, Jenna Bodkin, Tom Donnelly  
P4A: Aidan McAllister, Noel Black, Maisie Hamill  
P4B: Adam Conway, Deaglan Doran, Caitlin Donnelly  
P5A: Dominik Szymanski, Faith Owens, Kiera McGarvey  
P5B: Aodhan O'Neill, Sonika Sapkota, Malachy Walsh  
P6A: Kara Long, Adam Makin, Faye McCusker  
P6B: Patrick Healy, Sophie O'Hanlon, Michael McArdle  
P7A: Erin Toal, Skye Warr, Luca Duffy  
P7B: Orlaith McKenna, Lennon Flood, Isaac Wright

### DATES FOR DECEMBER:

- P2 Christmas Concert will take place on Monday 9th December at 9.30am and Tuesday 10th December at 7pm. Details to follow.
- Christmas Jumper Day: Friday 15th December
- School Carol Service: Wednesday 13th December @ 9.30am

### 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

### FLU VACCINATIONS:

Flu vaccinations will be given to pupils in school on Friday 8th November 2019.

### Free School Meals

"The application process for free school meals/uniform has commenced. Parents who are currently eligible to apply for free meals/uniform should now complete their application. Please note that entitlement to free school meals will attract funding to the school's budget. Whether your child wishes to partake of a meal or not is down to individual choice. We would really encourage parents who fall into this category to please make an application as soon as possible for the incoming academic year. Application forms may be obtained via the Education Authority website – [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk) or alternatively by contacting Free School Meals Section on 02825661350. Forms are also available from the school. Should you have any further queries regarding this, please contact the school office.

### Gaelic Football Team

Congratulations to the Gaelic Team who reached the final of the Cumann na mBunscol Gaelic Tournament. The boys and girls played three matches to qualify. Well done! We are very proud of your achievements.

### Parental Workshops

A **P1 Blending Workshop** will take place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 8.45am in the school assembly hall.

**P3, 4, 5 Mental Maths and Problem Solving Workshop** Forty parents enjoyed an evening of fun and problem solving activities. They were introduced to a range of strategies which the children will use in school. A copy of the powerpoint can be found on the school website. Thank you to Mrs Thompson & Mr O'Brien.