



# MARCH'S EVENTS

Dear Parents/Carers, I would like to begin this newsletter by thanking you for the support and encouragement you have given to the staff and I over the past months. It has been a challenging time however, your words have certainly helped us and I thank you for this. We are very lucky to have such supportive parents. This month we see the days extending in regards to daylight and hopefully with the clearer evenings we will be able to get out and about more, this will hopefully give an opportunity to boost our well-being. I would also like to say a huge thank you to those who contributed once again towards raising money for Autism NI, the fantastic amount of £2,003.40 has been raised so far as well as a greater awareness of Autism. Many thanks to everyone!

## **World Book Day**

World Book Day will take place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. To celebrate the reading achievements of the children in our school, we invite all pupils to dress up as their favourite book character on this date. There will be lots of fun-filled activities, Accelerated Reader Quizzes and storytelling sessions for the children to take part in.

## **Road Safety Quiz**

Mr Carter, our lollipop man and our biggest advocate for Road Safety, will be hosting quizzes this year for our P7's on Road Safety. This will be a fun and engaging way for the children to pick up some top road safety tips. Mr Carter has organised prizes and medals for the winners of the Quiz. He has been working very hard on putting together questions that will not only test the children's knowledge but also allow them to learn important aspects of Road Safety. Each class will have their own quizzes and winners.

## **MASS IN THE CLASS**

### ***Broadcast from St Bernard's Church 2pm:***

Lenten Mass: Thursday 10th March

Holy Week Mass: Thursday 7th April

May Mass: Mary the Mother of God: Thurs 12th May

Leavers Mass date to be confirmed.

## **P3 Sacrament of Reconciliation**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation for P3 pupils will take place on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April for P3A and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April for P3B in St. Bernard's church at 4pm. P3 children will finish at 12 noon on the day of their First Confession. More details to follow.

## **Church Car Park**

Thank you for your continued support in trying to alleviate the congestion in the church car park. Please continue to turn left when exiting the car park as this really helps with the flow of traffic. When dropping your child/children off in the morning or picking up in the afternoon please only use the designated parking spaces. This will also help to alleviate congestion and ensure that everyone can move around the car park safely.

## **Inclement Weather**

Unfortunately, this time of year always holds the possibility of a school closure due to inclement weather. The decision to close a school is not taken lightly. As with previous years we will do all in our power to keep the school open however I do need to consider the Health and Safety implications for pupils, parents and staff. Following a risk assessment, if a decision to close the school is made, we will inform every one of the closures by text message between 7.30am—8.30am. It is vitally important that you inform the school office of any changes to contact numbers to ensure you receive this information. Closure information will also be displayed on the school's website.

## **Peace Proms Update**

We have very recently been given notification that the Peace Proms has been rescheduled for Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. A time for this event is yet to be finalised. The children will be taking part in two zoom workshops over the coming weeks, in preparation for the event. We are delighted that this event is taking place as it is a fantastic opportunity for all the children involved.

## **St. Patrick's Day Dinner**

Mrs Butler our school cook will serve a St. Patrick's Day dinner on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March. All pupils are welcome to have this dinner brought to their class. Cost is £2.60. To book please use school money.



## CONGRATULATIONS : JANUARY PUPILS OF THE MONTH

|            |  |            |                                     |
|------------|--|------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>P1A</b> | Ruby Kirk-Begley<br>Conor Hughes         | <b>P1B</b> | Eoin Nellis<br>Jake McMillan        |
| <b>P2A</b> | Ava Beattie<br>Harry Cassidy             | <b>P2B</b> | Rosa McMullan<br>Orlaith Galloway   |
| <b>P3A</b> | Erin Corry<br>James Carrigan             | <b>P3B</b> | Ayla Yildiz<br>Eoin Gillen          |
| <b>P4A</b> | Molly Bradley Clayton<br>Daniel Kornacki | <b>P4B</b> | Alicia Tarnowski<br>Paul Boyle      |
| <b>P5A</b> | Scarlett Lowry<br>Liam Mulholland        | <b>P5B</b> | Ruairi McMullan<br>Joseph Feeney    |
| <b>P6A</b> | Noel Black<br>Erin McGuigan              | <b>P6B</b> | Luke McAleer<br>Niamh Boyle         |
| <b>P7A</b> | Annie Lowry<br>Caoimhe Scullion          | <b>P7B</b> | Gabriella Maksymiuk<br>Abbie O'Hare |

## Congratulations to our ECO warriors with their help we can work together to reduce energy costs.

|      |   |
|------|---|
| P1A: | Logan Kelly, Georgia Kelly- O'Neill                                   |
| P1B: | Orlaith Finnerty, Aodhan Nellis                                       |
| P2A: | Piper McCausland, Eimear McDermott,<br>Brody McDonald, Issy McFarland |
| P2B: | Cathal Magee, Jay McKay, Lily Slezak                                  |
| P3A: | Seth Wright, Julia Borkowska  |
| P3B: | Freddie Mooney, Cara Russell  |
| P4A: | Mya Mc Kay, Kaiden Mc Kernon, Oisín Mc Laughlin                       |
| P4B: | Paul Boyle, Zara Reilly, Molly Neill                                  |
| P5A: | Sanjana Ramguth, Amelie Pille Ashe, Theo Murray                       |
| P5B: | Dara McDonald, Naomi Mc Dyer,   |
| P6A: | Erin McGuigan, Dillon Foy, Olivia Czyz, Marcus Gilvary                |
| P6B: | Luke McAleer, Adam Conway, Grace Doyle                                |
| P7A: | Kryspin Biernat, Tabitha McAreyve, Sophia McKay,<br>Dominik Szymanski |
| P7B: | Eva Erskine, Sonika Sapkota, Caolan Mc Cready                         |

## School Closures:

**St Patrick's Day** – School will be closed Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March.

**Easter Break** – School will close at 12 noon on Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> April and will re-open for the third term on Mon 25<sup>th</sup> April.

## Modular Build Update

Over the midterm break the modular build was lifted into position by a huge 300 tonne crane. This was a very exciting and impressive piece of work and engineering. Work has now started on setting up the classrooms so that they can be used by the children. We are hopeful that this can be completed by Easter. Work is being completed to allow access to the main school and to create a safe thoroughfare from the building to the playground. These are exciting times for our school and we look forward to having access to this wonderful resource.

## Primary 7 Update

In Primary 7 it will be a busy time with a number of very worthwhile programmes being delivered. First REACH (Resilience Education Assisting Change to Happen) are delivering a course to our primary 7's in order to help prepare the children for transition at the end of June. During March, Community Relations in Schools (CRIS) will be hosting a number of workshops for our Primary 7 pupils. These will be led by Gerard Hughes and the focus of the workshops will be to develop an understanding of self-belief and understanding. Also during the month of March Caitriona Fox will deliver a sign language course to P7 children giving a greater awareness of communication and the variety of ways this can be accomplished. These courses are very beneficial to our year 7's as they look forward to their next journey into post-primary.

## Re-opening of St. Mary's on the Hill Church

From 2nd March St Marys on the Hill Church will gradually open-up. There will be a Lenten 7.30am mass in St Marys on the Hill – Monday to Friday – beginning on Ash Wednesday. This is fantastic news for our parish and school. We look forward to further details of the continued re-opening of the church and will keep you informed.

## Solihull Parenting Programmes

The Department of Education in conjunction with the Public Health Agency has prepaid access to a range of online Solihull Parenting Programmes for residents in NI (until October 2022), and want to make parents/carers aware of this resource.

There are a variety of courses starting from pregnancy to teenagers for parents to access.

You may wish to go to the 'parent tab' on the Getting Ready to Learn website –

[www.gettingreadytolearn.co.uk/parents](http://www.gettingreadytolearn.co.uk/parents), where you can also access this information.