



APRIL'S EVENTS

Dear Parents/Carers, we are moving swiftly through the school year and April sees the end of the second term and the beginning of our final term of the year. There is much to look forward to, including sacramental preparation, Sports Days and end of year trips for our P7's. We would like to thank you for your continued support and we are hopeful that in the weeks ahead the restrictions that we have in place can become more relaxed. This month we also have our Easter break and we hope that the children have an enjoyable time off. There are exciting times ahead for our school in the coming months and rest assured that everything we do is in the best interests of the children.

Autism NI Fundraising

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the Autism NI Superhero Day. It was fantastic to see so many of the children supporting this cause and the amount raised, £2186, was an amazing total. This organisation do a lot of very good work in schools and the wider community and our contribution will make a huge difference to many children's lives. Thank you.

Parking

Please continue to be aware of parking around the school. As the children are coming into and leaving school we need to ensure that the entrances and exits to the car park are as clear as possible. Could I ask that these are kept clear and that cars are not parked on the side of the road blocking sightlines? Many thanks.

Trócaire Week 4th – 8th April

During this week we will be raising funds for Trócaire. The money we raise is so important in helping those countries most in need. Our school has always shown generosity to this charity and it is always very much appreciated. The children have been thinking hard about how they would like to fundraise;

Years 1 – 4 will participate in a Sponsored Danceathon

Year 5 are having a *Penalty Shootout* and a *Bring and Buy* sale.

Year 6 will be doing a Sponsored Mile run/walk.

Year 7 are completing a 5k walk and Easter Egg raffle.

Sacraments

The P3 children have been preparing for their First Confessions, which will take place on Tuesday 5th April (P3A) and Wednesday 6th April (P3B). We would like to wish all the children the very best as they continue along their faith journey through receiving this very important sacrament.

The P4 children will be receiving their first Holy Communion next month with P4A celebrating on Tuesday 17th May and P4B celebrating on Wednesday 18th May. The children will be preparing for receiving the sacrament this month. We will keep them in our prayers as they do so.

MASS IN THE CLASS

Broadcast from St Bernard's Church 2pm:

Holy Week Mass: Thursday 7th April

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

Leavers Mass date to be confirmed.

Peace Proms Update

We have very recently been given notification that the Peace Proms has been rescheduled for Sunday 22nd May. It will take place in the **Waterfront Hall** and the programme for the evening will begin at **7pm**. We look forward to the event taking place and will update you with any further information that we receive.

CONGRATULATIONS : MARCH PUPILS OF THE MONTH

P1A	Sanjit Sapkota	P1B	Olivia Jablonskaite
	Joshua Stewart		Aodhan Nellis
P2A	Izzy McFarlane	P2B	Ava Bellamy
	Fiadh Turley		Theo Blair
P3A	Charlie Maxwell	P3B	Mia Jablonskaite
	Grace Kelly		Alfie O'Hare
P4A	Mya McKay	P4B	Odhran McMenamin
	Kamil Wysocki		Cara Dunlop
P5A	Eva Rankin	P5B	Cillian McCabe
	Jacob Collins		Noah Stewart
P6A	Rory Makin	P6B	Paige Stewart
	Natalia Czyz		Ryan Mullan
P7A	Ava Gallagher	P7B	Eabha McCabe
	Holly North		James Hall

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, Brody McDonald, Issy McFarland
P2B:	Cathal Magee, Jay McKay, Lily Slezak
P3A:	Seth Wright, Julia Burkowska
P3B:	Ella Hale, Eilidh Morgan, Iona McMahon
P4A	Mya McKay, Kaiden McKernan, Oisín McLaughlin
P4B:	Paul Boyle, Zara Reilly, Molly Neill
P5A:	Sanjana Ramguth, Amelie Pille Ashe, Theo Murray
P5B	Dara McDonald, Naomi McDyer, Eli McFarlane
P6A:	Oliwia Czyz, Dillon Foy, Erin McGuigan, Marcus Gilvary
P6B:	Luke McAleer, Adam Conway, Grace Doyle
P7A:	Krypsin Biernat, Tabitha McAreyve, Sophia McKay, Dominik Szymanski
P7B:	Keeley Lawlor, James Hall, Eabha McCabe

School Closures

Easter Break – School will close on Thurs 14th April at 11.45am for P1 – P3 pupils and 12 noon for P4 – P7 pupils and will re-open for the third term on Mon 25th April.

May Day – Monday 2nd May

Modular Build Update

The modular build is ongoing and we are coming gradually to the end of the work that needs to be done. We had hoped that everything would be finished before the Easter break, however this is looking increasingly unlikely. There have been many contributing factors to the delay including sourcing material, unavailability of workers and delays with equipment. This means that work will continue after the Easter break. We remain hopeful for a completion date in term three. I will keep you posted on any further developments!

School Council

Our School Council, which is made up of pupils from Year 4 – Year 7, have been meeting regularly and coming up with fantastic suggestions as to how we can improve our school and what they would like to see happening in term three. In a recent meeting they delivered the outcomes of their meetings to Mr O'Brien who has been able to assure the children that their voice will be heard. The children are looking forward to a trip to Mossley Mill in the near future, where they can find out about the running of our Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council. The date for this trip will be finalised soon. Thank you to Mrs Dempsey for leading the school council and helping the children to organise their meetings.

The School Council have voted and decided that we would like plants in each classroom. We believe they may make our pupils more content, more satisfied and even improve their learning.

A number of plants may help to clean the classroom air, reduce CO2 and give our pupils the warm, fuzzy feeling of having a closer connection with nature

We are looking for a parent /carer that may have contacts or work in a garden centre that can help advise or help with donations.

Please contact the school if you can help.

Thanks,

The School Council

Social Media

We hope every child has a safe and happy experience whilst using the internet. As you monitor and talk to your child about internet communication, explain to them that they should be careful as to what they put online. As you know, once 'send' is pressed, you cannot control who sees your comments. Perhaps you could encourage your child to use the *10 second rule* and think: 'Is your comment something you want the world to see?'

Some sites can be dangerous places for younger children; potentially exposing them to bullying, inappropriate content or grooming. But they can also provide important support networks for younger people. It is extremely important to monitor your child's activity while they are online and particularly if they are using social media.