



St. Mary's on the Hill October Information 2023



Welcome to October's Information update. The children have started the school year very well and now as we move into the second month of this first term we are focusing on continuing to develop their skills and understanding. Thank you to everyone who managed to attend the curriculum talks during September. Primary 6 and 7 still have their Curriculum Talks to come. The information which was imparted during these sessions is available on the school website. The help the children receive from home is invaluable and your continued support is very much appreciated.

During the month of October there are a number of events upcoming which I will go into in more detail through this sway. If there is anything you would like more information about, which could be included in future Sways, please let me know by contacting the school through email on info@stmarys.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk

Kind regards

Mr. Matthew O'Brien

Principal



CHURCH CAR PARK: I would like to gently remind everyone of the difficulties and dangers around drop-off and collection of your child/ren. I am asking that all parents exercise extreme caution. To alleviate the difficulty of congestion we are asking all parents to make a **LEFT TURN** when exiting the car park. **Please use the designated parking spaces or drop off zone.**

WAITING AT THE GATE: Thank you all for your support and cooperation in the mornings whilst leaving your children to school. **We would ask parents not to wait at the gate once they have left their child to school.** By leaving your child off and moving off-site you are freeing up limited parking spaces. It can be difficult for children to enter through the gate when parents are gathered there. As the gate is in close proximity to the entrance of the car park we want to make every effort to ensure 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.



The Book Fair will take place this year week beginning Monday 16th October until Friday 20th October 2023. This is a great opportunity for your children to continue to develop their love of reading. It also generates much needed funds for our school.

Parents can also visit the Book Fair to select books for your child. The Book Fair will be set up in the school foyer and the time table for parents is as follows

Monday 16th October - 3:15pm - 3:45pm

Thursday 19th October - 9:15 am - 9:45am

Friday 20th October - 2:15pm - 2:45pm



Maths Week Ireland is being celebrated throughout Ireland from 14th October to the 22nd October. In school, we are looking forward to carrying out different Mathematical activities as well as taking part in Maths workshops. During this week a Maths Workshop will be available for P3/P4 parents to help support their child at home. This will take place on Tuesday 17th October @ 6:00pm.

Further details of Maths Week, which includes events that are taking place, can be found by following the link below:

<https://www.mathsweek.ie/2023/>

Promoting Health Eating



Here at St. Mary's on the Hill we promote Healthy Eating across the school. We encourage children to choose a healthy snack for their break as well as making healthy choices in what they eat and drink. Please help the children to make this healthy choice for their break. A reminder that water can be taken during the day. Juice should not be added to the water in children's water bottles.



PTA[®]

CONNECTING

Families and Schools

The PTA are organising events which will raise much needed funds for our school. They are also organising events that will bring our families together. Below are list of events taking place during October organised by the PTA

Thursday 5th October - PTA AGM @ 7:00pm- This is an opportunity to join the PTA and have a tangible impact on your child's education through raising much needed funds for the school.

Wednesday 11th October - PTA Tea and Coffee Morning @ 9:15am - 10:30am. Drop in for a cup of tea and meet some of the other families in our school. Mr Carter will also be there with pre-loved uniforms.



*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 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.

Flu Immunisation Programme



*The Flu Vaccination programme will take place in school on **Monday 6th November**. Please ensure your child's form is with your child's class teacher by **Thursday 5th October**. Forms will not be accepted on the day of the vaccination as the nurses will only have enough vaccines for those who have requested it.*

Digital Leaders



DIGITAL LEADERS

Well Done to our Digital Leaders for this year. They will do an excellent job of supporting the development of ICT in our school

Aine Pollock
Adam Krol
John Paul McMullan
Hannah Szymanska
Sophie McGuigan
Daniel McAleer
Noah Devlin
Katie McCann
Clodhna Neill
Max Hanlon
Tom Donnelly
Elsie Marley

Behaviour Targets



*One of the things we are proudest of in St. Mary's on the Hill is the children's behaviour. However, there is always room for improvement. Now that the children have settled back into school for the month of October we have identified '**Being Prepared**' as our school behavioural target.*

This will mean being prepared for the school day, having all the equipment that is needed as well as understanding that it is important to come to school ready to learn. We will build on the previous month's target of Actively Listening as part of Being Prepared.

I will talk to the children at each of our assemblies regarding this and staff will reinforce this message in school. Can we ask you, parents and carers, to do the same at home? Please encourage your child to demonstrate 'Great Listening' when people are talking or giving instructions.

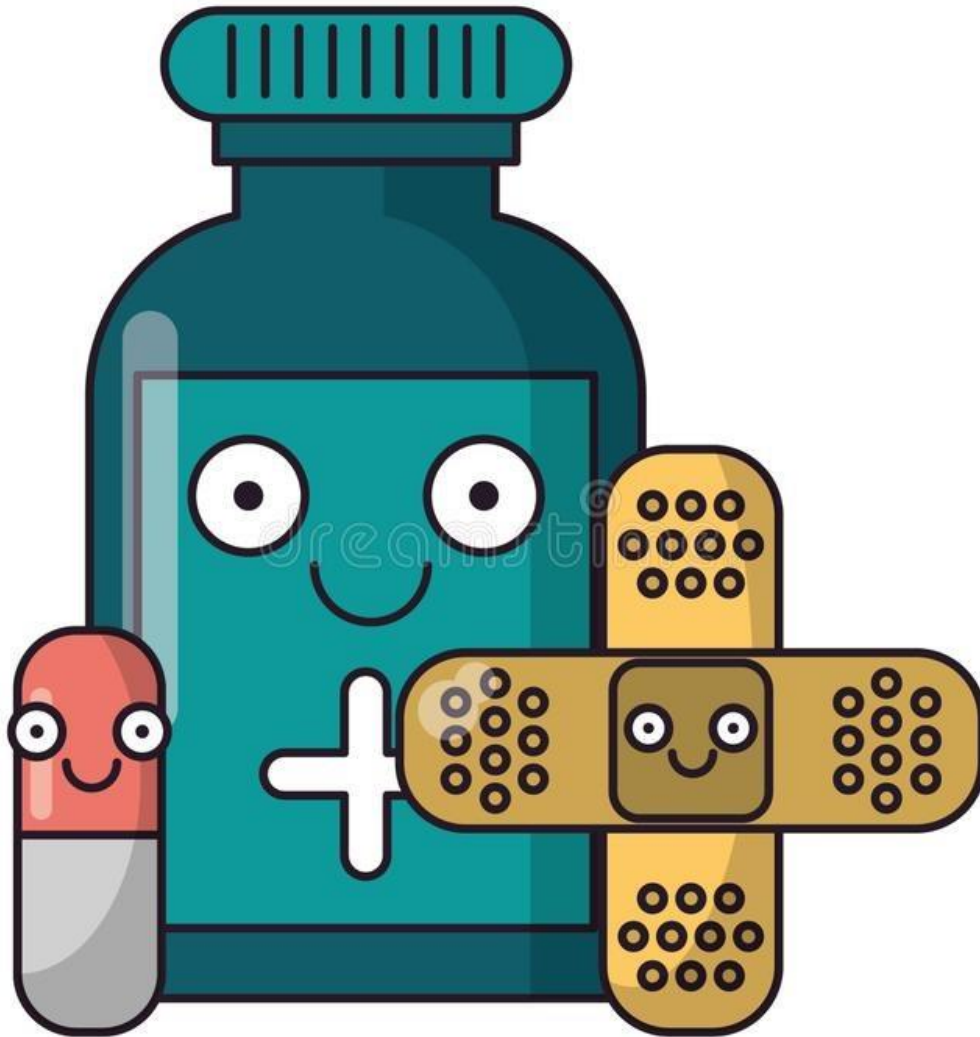


We have a number of children who suffer from allergies, which can result in potentially serious consequences. I would therefore ask that these children are not exposed to danger and that you are mindful of any children in your child's class who may have an allergy. We continue to be a Nut Free School, please do not send in anything which contains nuts.

Parents of children with diagnosed allergies are asked to provide the school with 2 Epipens (with valid dates) and any other necessary medication as soon as possible.

Please continue to support our 'Healthy Eating Policy' and provide your child with a piece of fruit and water or milk for break.

Administraion of Medicine



Please speak to your child's teacher if you require medication administered to your child whilst at school. Parents need to sign and complete an 'Administration of Medication' form (available from the school office) before the school will administer the medicine. All medication needs to be prescribed, should have the child's name on it and the dosage clearly labelled. Teachers will not administer medication which is not labelled as such. Please do not send in any medication with your child – it must be handed into the school office by an adult. Thank You.

School Dinners



Parents can now select and pay for dinners for the first term, up until w/b Monday 18th December 2023, by logging on to School Money using your unique username and password. Your child's dinner should be ordered before midnight prior to the day it is required. Please contact the school if you have any problems. We require every parent to use this facility. A copy of the menu can be found on our website.

School Lunch Menu – September 2023

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK 1 : Wk Beg: 28.08.23 25.09.23 23.10.23 27.11.23 01.01.24 29.01.24 04.03.24 08.04.24 06.05.24 03.06.24	Savoury Mince Mashed Potatoes Carrots Banana Yoghurt Pot	Margherita Pizza Salad/Coleslaw Chips Strawberry Mousse & Fruit	Roast Gammon with Stuffing & Gravy Mash/Oven Roast Potatoes Savoy Cabbage/Carrots & Parsnip Strawberry Jelly/Ice Cream & Fruit	Homemade Chicken Curry & Naan Bread Boiled Rice Peas/Sweetcorn Chocolate Sponge & Custard	Hotdog Chips & Side Salad Fresh Fruit Pot & Biscuit
WEEK 2 : Wk Beg: 04.09.23 22.10.23 06.11.23 04.12.23 08.01.24 05.02.24 11.03.24 15.04.24 13.05.24 10.06.24	Sausage Roll Chips/Jacket Potato Spaghetti Hoops/Peas Ice Cream/Chocolate Sauce & Sliced Pears	Pasta Bolognese/Garlic Bread Sweetcorn Zesty Orange Sponge & Custard	Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Gravy Mash/Roast Potatoes Broccoli/Cauliflower/ Carrots Blueberry Muffin	Homemade Chicken Curry & Naan Bread Boiled Rice/Garden Peas Fresh Fruit Salad & Yoghurt	Beef Burger/Bap Chips/Salad/Homemade Chilli Wedges Flakemeal Biscuit & Fruit
WEEK 3 : Wk Beg: 11.09.23 09.10.23 13.11.23 11.12.23 15.01.24 19.02.24 18.03.24 22.04.24 20.05.24 17.06.24	Golden Crumbed Fish Fingers Mashed Potatoes Baked Beans/Coleslaw Arctic Roll/Peaches & Pears	Italian Beef with Crusty Roll Garden Peas Fresh Fruit Pot	Roast Gammon with Stuffing & Gravy Mash/Oven Roast Potatoes Carrot/Parsnip/ Cauliflower Cheese Melon Wedge	Homemade Chicken Curry & Naan Bread Boiled Rice Mini Corn on the Cob Lemon Drizzle Cake & Custard	Tasty Pork Sausages Gravy Chips/Mash Peas/Spaghetti Hoops Decorated Fairy Cake
WEEK 4 : Wk Beg: 18.09.23 16.10.23 20.11.23 18.12.23 22.12.24 26.02.24 25.03.24 29.04.24 27.04.24 24.06.24	Beef Bolognese/Pasta Garlic Bread Peas Melon/Mandarin & Pineapple Pots with Yoghurt Dip	Ham & Cheese Pizza or Pepperoni with Garlic Dip Sweetcorn & Red Pepper Coleslaw Chips/Baked Potato Jelly & Mandarin Oranges	Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Gravy Mash & Oven Roast Potatoes Broccoli/Turnip Ice Cream/Pears & Chocolate Sauce	Homemade Chicken Curry & Naan Bread Green Beans / Boiled Rice Cornflake Tart & Custard	Golden Crumb Fish Fingers Chips/Mashed Potatoes Baked Beans/Salad Homemade Ginger Biscuit & Fruit

*Breads
Milk, Water
A Choice of Fresh
Fruit require
Available Daily*

*If you require any
additional
information on
Allergens or
Special Diets,
please contact
the School to
complete a
Special Diets
Application Form*

Dates for Diary



Maths Week Ireland - 14th October - 22nd October

Travelling Book Fair - 16th October - 20th October

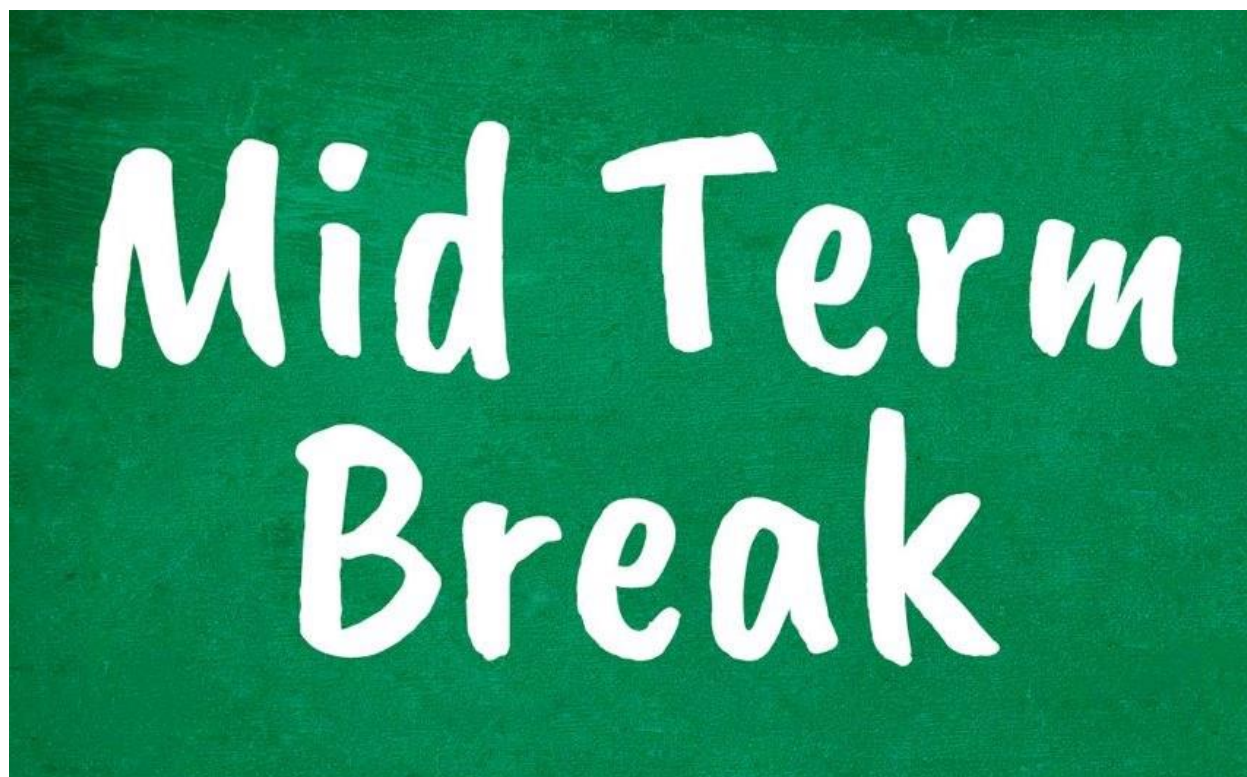
Flu Vaccination - Monday 6th November (Day when school returns after Mid term Break)

School Photographer (Edenmoure Photography) - Thursday 13th October & Friday 14th October

Mass in the Class - Thursday 9th November @ 2pm - Mass for those who have Died

Thursday 7th December @ 2pm - Advent Mass

Mid - Term Break



The school will close on Friday 27th October for all pupils. P1 - P3 will finish at 11:45am, P4 - P7 will finish at 12 noon. School will reopen on Monday 6th November.

Contact Details



There are some contacts in school which do not appear to be working, perhaps due to change of number or email address. If your address, telephone number or email address has changed please inform Mrs Mason in the office to ensure we have up to date information should we have a need to contact you.
