



## St. Mary's on the Hill June's Information Sway 2024



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*Welcome to June's Information Sway. As we come to the final month of our school year we can look forward to a number of events which are due to take place. Can I encourage you to read through the sway so you are aware of what is upcoming.*

*MAY, WHAT A MONTH! We've had Confirmation for our P7s. The children were simply outstanding. A huge thank you to Mrs Carey and Mrs O'Boyle and to all our staff for preparing the children for this wonderful sacrament. Thank you also to Fr Pat Sheehan for his spiritual guidance and support.*

*We have had our P1 – P7 Sports Days which was great fun and we were very pleased with the turnout of parents and grandparents who added to the occasion, despite the weather. Special thanks must go to the teachers and to all staff for organising these events.*

*I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Summer Holiday and hope that you get the chance to enjoy time with your families.*

*If you have any queries please send a message to the school email address given below.*

*[info@stmarys.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@stmarys.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk)*

*Kind regards Mr. Matthew O'Brien*

*Principal*

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## Behaviour Targets



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*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. In the month of June we are focusing on '**Gratitude**'. I will talk to the children at each of our assemblies regarding this and staff will reinforce the message in school. During the month of June we will discuss how we can be thoughtful of other people including how we speak to them and how we interact. We will talk about being thoughtful in and out of school and respecting other people. Can we ask parents and carers to do the same at home? This is to ensure that pupils know the correct way to interact with each other.*

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## P4 Holy Communion



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*The Primary 4's will make their First Holy Communion on 12th June. The children have been preparing extremely well to receive this sacrament. As in past years the ceremony will take place in St. Bernard's church and information has already been sent to families. This is a very special and important time for our Primary 4 children and we will keep them in our prayers over the coming weeks.*

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## Free School Meals



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### *Free School Meals/School Uniform/Physical Education*

#### *Clothing Allowance 2024-25*

*The Education Authority (EA) will be issuing communications on the EA website and social media channels to inform parents/ guardians and continues to seek your support to promote awareness of Free School Meals and Clothing Allowances, and to encourage all potential applicants to apply for the support available.*

#### *Current Eligible Families and New Applicants*

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A Fond Farewell to our Fabulous P7's

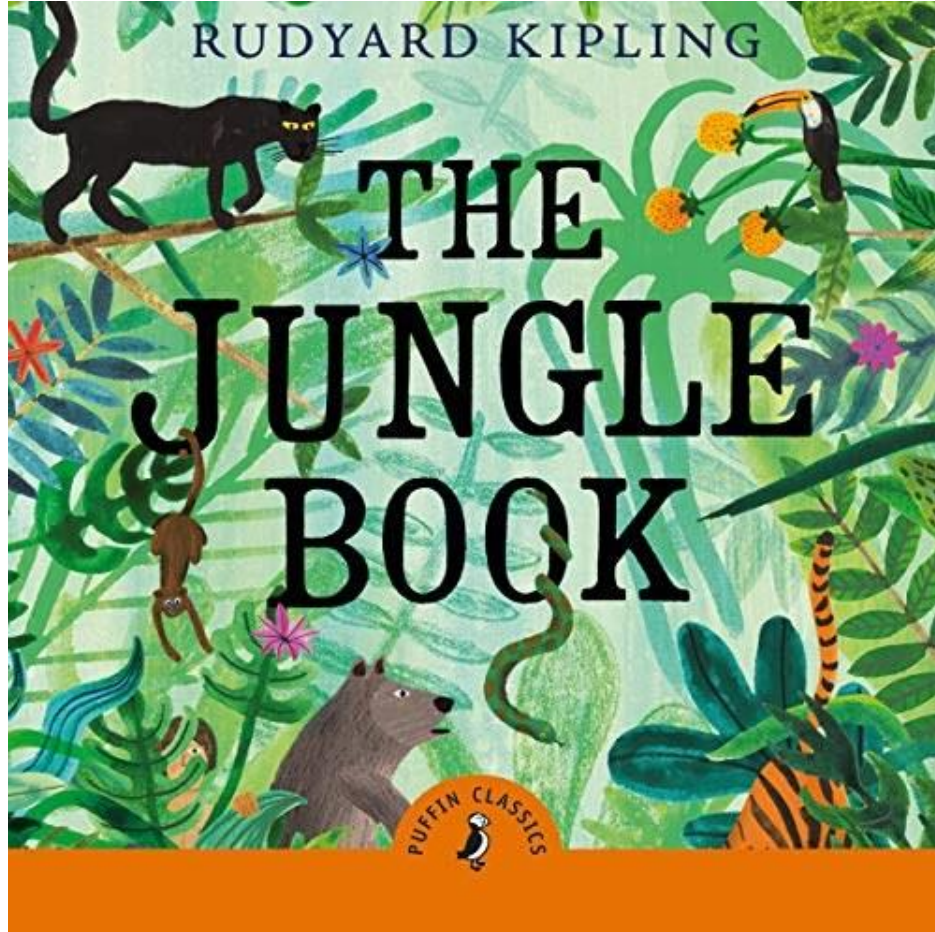


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*It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our P7's. They have been an exceptional group of children. Their behaviour, manners and attitude to school, to each other and to staff has been outstanding. You have simply been a pleasure to have in the school, a credit to your families, the school and to yourselves. You have exemplified the school motto - Learn to Love, Love to Learn. We wish you all well for this next chapter in your lives.*

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P7 Show - The Jungle Book



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*This year the Primary 7's will be performing for parents as well as pupils. The show this year is The Jungle Book. Parents will be invited to attend on;*

*Tuesday 11th June @ 1:30 pm*

*Thursday 13th June @ 7:00 pm*

*Further information to follow.*

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Dates at a Glance



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*Wednesday 5th June - Induction Afternoon for new P1 Parents*

*Thursday 6th June - Induction Afternoon for new P1 Parents*

*Saturday 8th June - Feis Bheal Feirste*

*Wednesday 12th June - First Holy Communion St Bernard's @ 4:00pm*

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*Tuesday 11th June - P7 Show Matinee 1:30pm*

*Thursday 13th June - P7 Show 7:00pm*

*Tuesday 18th June - Activity NI P7 Fun day*

*Wednesday 19th June - Love 4 Life P7's*

*Wednesday 19th June - Annual Reports issued*

*Thursday 20th June - Joe the Drummer*

*Friday 21st June - End of Year Mass for P7's and finish 12pm*

*Friday 28th June - School closes @11.45am for P1-P3 and 12 noon for P4-P7*

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School Closures for June





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*The school will close for the Summer break on Friday 28th June at 11:45am for P1 - P3 and 12 noon for P4 - P7. School will reopen for pupils in P2-7 on Thursday 29th August 2024 for half day only. The school will close at 12pm on this day. **A holiday list is available on the school website.***

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## School Dinners



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*Parents can now select and pay for dinners for the third term , up until the end of June 2024, 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 who wishes to book a school lunch for their child to use this facility.** Some changes have been made to the lunch menu which can be viewed here and also on the school website.*

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Breads, Milk, Water & Fresh Fruit Available Daily

If You Require Any Additional Information on Allergens or Special Diets Please Contact the School to complete a Special Diets Application Form

## Facebook



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*Please visit, like and share our Facebook page. It continues to be used to promote the school in the wider community. We will celebrate and mark events throughout the school year. **If you have not already done so please give our page a like.***

*The school will continue to communicate and update parents via email and text. Facebook will not be used to send messages to parents and we would ask that parents do not use Facebook to contact the school.*

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Click on the link below and please share with anyone you think would be interested or has a connection to our school - <https://www.facebook.com/StMarysOnTheHillPS/>

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## Promoting Healthy Eating



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*Here at St. Mary's on the Hill Primary School 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. Our PTA have secured a delivery of fruit, for all children in the school, from Tesco Northcott. This will take place on one Friday each month. We would like to thank the PTA for their continued support of the school in the promotion of healthy eating.*

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## Free School Meals



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*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 like to encourage parents who fall into this category to **please make an application** as soon as possible. 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 028 2566 1350. Forms are also available from the school. Should you have any further queries regarding this, please contact the school office.*

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## Car Parking



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**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.*

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## Allergy Awareness



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*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.*

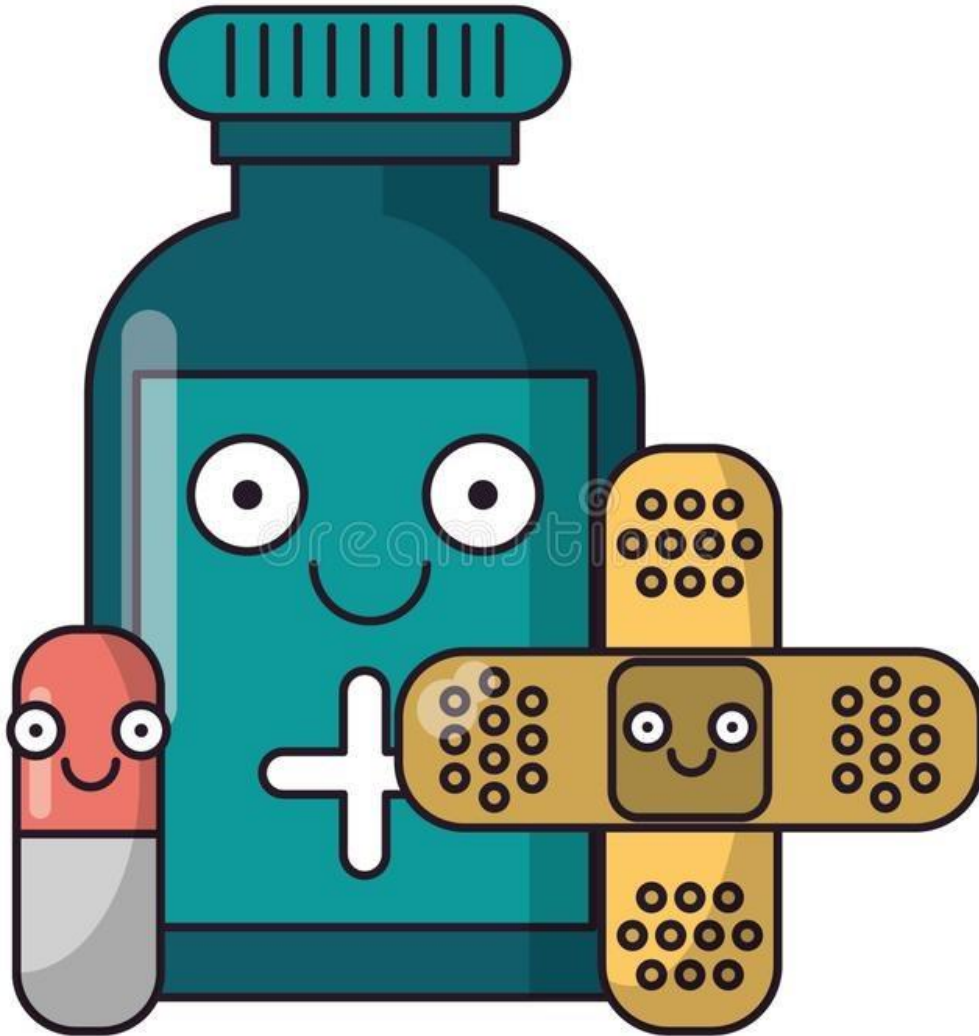
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*Please continue to support our 'Healthy Eating Policy' and provide your child with a piece of fruit and water or milk for break.*

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## Administration of Medicine



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*Please visit the school office if your child requires medication to be administered 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 should have the child's name on it and the dosage clearly labelled. Please do not send any medication with your child – it must be handed into the school office by an adult. Thank You.*

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## Contact Details



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*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.*

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