



OCTOBER'S EVENTS

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our Events News Sheet has been in publication for a year now. In addition to our other correspondence, I hope to use this as a means of updating you of current events and future activities each month.

The termly SMOTH TALK will still continue with the children writing about their experiences throughout the term. Finally, you can keep up to date with the latest information posted on the school website www.stmarysonthehill.co.uk

Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday 3—Wednesday 4 October

School Photographer

Thursday 5 October

Football Blitz for school Gaelic Team

Friday 6th October

P2 Visit to Glengormley Fire Station

Thursday 19 October

P3 Trip to Carrickfergus Castle

Monday 23 October

Flu Vaccine administered to pupils

P7 Parental Meeting: Residential trip to Carlingford—2pm. Details to follow.

Tuesday 24 October

P4 WWII Workshop

Wednesday 25 October

P5 Early Man Workshop

Thursday 26th October

Halloween Dinner for Pupils



Curriculum Morning: Many thanks to all the parents who attended the Curriculum Talks. This year the percentage attendance was 59%. Following your feedback we intend, certainly for next year, to continue with this practice of holding the meetings at 9am. Curriculum Booklets can be printed from the school website.

Fancy Dress:

Halloween fancy dress for those pupils who wish to participate—27th October 2017.

Fire Safety Day: A representative from Newtownabbey Fire Safety Team will visit the school on Friday 27th October to talk to all pupils regarding Firework Safety.

Halloween Disco: The PTA have organised a disco for P1-P3—1pm—2pm. P4-P7—2pm—3pm—Friday 27th October. The cost is £2.50 per pupil or £5.00 per family. This includes a goody bag.

Parent/Teacher Consultations

The school will be closed on Friday 24th November to facilitate parent/teacher consultations. An appointment will be sent to parents week beginning Monday 6th November.

Administration of Medicines

If your child has an illness/medical condition which requires him/her to take medication during the school day a medical consent form should be completed and forwarded to your child's class teacher. Forms are available from the school office.

Mid-term Break

The school will be closed for one week from Monday 30th October until Friday 3rd November.

Waiting at the Gate: Thank you for all your support and cooperation in the mornings whilst leaving your children to school through the main entrance. Over the years the numbers of children, particularly in P1 & P2, have grown substantially and we have limited space in the playground for parents, carers, grandparents, supervisors and teachers. It can be very difficult for us to monitor the children.

We would encourage parents not to wait at the gate once they have left their child to school. There are a number of reasons for this. Firstly, by leaving your child off and moving off-site you are freeing up limited parking spaces. Secondly, it can be difficult for children to enter through the gate when parents are gathered there. Finally, as the gate is in close proximity to the entrance of the car park we want to make every effort to ensure that no accidents occur.

CONGRATULATIONS - PUPIL OF THE MONTH

P1A	Leo Cairns	P1B	Aidan McStravick
	Erin Brownlie		Sinead Smyth
	Clodagh Keenan		Dylan O'Kane
P2A	Caoimhin Hayes	P2B	Eabha Doyle
	Noel Black		James Reddick
P3A	Aiden McCoy	P3B	Heidi Bowen
	Jarlath Slane		Neva Yildiz
P4A	David Loye	P4B	Sophie-Rose Peters-O'Hanlon
	Matthew Brennan		Jude Rooney
P5A	Skye Warr	P5B	Lewis O'Hare
	Eamon Loye		Lara Duracova
P6A	Ryan Donaldson	P6B	Christian O'Hare
	Greta Prunskus		Maria Mallon
P7A	Sam McDermott	P7B	Evelina Jablonskaite
	Leah Horan		Shayne Quinn

Photographs are displayed in the main foyer of the school.

OPEN MORNING

Children who are due to start P1 or Playgroup in September 2018 are invited, along with parents, to attend our open morning on Friday 1st December 2017 at 9.30am–10.30am.

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

P2A: Caragh Scott, Caoimhin Hayes & Natalia Czyz
P2B: Niamh Boyle, Maeve McMenamin & Conor O'Kane
P3A: Sofia Reilly, Preston Lynch & Dominic Szymanski
P3B: James Hall, Eva Erskine & Aine Gavin
P4A: Kara Long, Conor Devenny & Caitlin Neeson
P4B: Clodagh Smyth, Aodhan Adams & Dagmara Sarnowska
P5A: Aaron Connolly, Lauren Briers-Tumelty & Joel Hanna
P5B: Jake Boyd, Freya Cameron & Jakub Pniewski
P6A: Lorcan McCann, Daniel McKeating & Hannah Pollock
P6B: Evie Dawson, Katie McMahan & Niamh Ferguson
P7A: Shay Corr, Lauren Hanna & Eoin Devenny
P7B: Eva Gilvary & Jack Montgomery

Maths Week

Many thanks to Mrs Thompson, our Numeracy Coordinator, who has planned an exciting week with the teachers for Maths Week Ireland which runs from Monday 16 October—Friday 20th October 2017.

P4/P5 Mathematical Parental Workshop on Thursday 19 October @ 7pm. Details to follow.

WAITING CLUB

The Waiting Club is available to all pupils in P1, P2 and P3 and runs daily from 2p–3pm. The cost of this facility is £2.50 per day. Further details please contact the school office—028 9083 6284.

BREAKFAST CLUB

The Breakfast Club continues to operate from 7.45—8.45am. Anyone wishing to avail of this facility please contact the school office—028 9083 6284. The cost is £2.50 per day, however, presently it is being supplemented very generously by St Vincent de Paul Society and costs just £1.50 per day.

Phonics Workshop

A Phonics Workshop will take place for parents of P1 pupils in the school assembly hall, on Wednesday 11th October at 8.45am. Miss Dougan and Mrs McAlister will demonstrate a range of phonics activities which your child will be participating in during their P1 year and explain how phonics is taught in the classroom.

Coffee/tea will be served after the Phonics Workshop from 9.30am to give parents an opportunity to acquaint themselves with other parents of P1 children.

Class Masses

P7—Tuesday 3rd October @ 9.15am
P5—Tuesday 10th October @ 9.15am
P6—Tuesday 17th October @ 9.15am
P4—Tuesday 24th October @ 9.15am

Parental Assemblies

P3A—Wednesday 4th October @ 9.30am
P3B—Thursday 26th October @ 9.30am

School Council

Good luck to all the boys and girls who are currently writing their manifesto for election to the school council. The pupil voice has made a big difference to what goes on within the school. We look forward to seeing who will be elected and what they will do for the pupil body this year. The mayor will attend the investiture ceremony for the school council on **20th November at 9.30am**. Those parents of children elected are invited to attend. Details to follow.

School Book Fair

Our annual School Book Fair will take place from Monday 23rd—Friday 27th October. 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