



Newsletter

Monday 16th April



St. Joseph's Primary School

Annual Report

The Annual Report of the Board of Governors for the school year 2016-17 can be accessed on the school's website www.stjosephsps.co.uk/

PTA news

Art of Caring

Thank-you to everyone who helped out by volunteering at the Art of Caring Exhibition. The event was a real success and it helped to raise valuable funds for the PTA.

Cash for clobber

The date for leaving in bags of unwanted clothes, fabrics and textiles for Cash for Clobber has been extended to Friday 20th April. Items can be brought into school in bin bags at any time up until Friday morning when the collection is scheduled to take place.

Belfast Marathon relay teams

The PTA have organised two relay teams for the Belfast Marathon on 7th May and we need your support. Our Superstar relay team members are: Suzanne Barrett, Dan Ryden, Steven Patterson, Lauren Haughey, Ronan Haughey, Anne McConville, Ronan McCormick, Richard Dale, Martin McCormick and Fionamarie Devlin... Go Runners!! You can support them and the PTA by donating via the Just Giving page https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stjosptamarathon2018?utm_id=2&utm_term=9qM2eVWwr

Non-uniform day

A marathon themed non-uniform day will also be organised for Friday 4th May. Details to follow.

Communion teas

The PTA are looking for four parents from P3 and P4 to help co-ordinate the Communion Teas on Sunday 13th and 20th May, PTA support will be provided. If you would be interested in taking on this role please contact Steven Patterson on 0790 938 1280 or let Mr Donaldson know. If you are unable to co-ordinate but would like to volunteer please e-mail the PTA on stjospta@gmail.com.

Community Fun Day

The annual Community Fun Day will take place on Saturday 16th June. Event details and volunteer rotas will be available soon.

Musical workshop

Congratulations to P6A for their fantastic musical collaboration of *Cirque du Respect* with a P7 class from Victoria Park Primary School on Friday 13 April, produced by Arts Insight and funded by The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation. This was postponed from earlier in the year, but was well worth the wait - the children excelled themselves. Special thanks to Mrs O' Mahoney Truesdale for setting this up and Miss McKinney for 'keeping the show on the road'.

Dinner menu

There may be a change to the normal dinner menu later this week, as dinners will be made at Greenwood Primary rather than Strandtown Primary. The new menu is:

Wednesday: Fish fingers, mashed potatoes and beans. Flakemeal biscuits and yoghurts.

Thursday: Roast chicken and gravy, mashed potatoes and carrots. Vanilla ice cream tubs.

Friday: Hot dog and chips, coleslaw and baked potatoes. Fresh fruit and yoghurts.

Holiday list 2018-2019

The holiday list for the school year 2018-2019 has been emailed to you and also is available on the school's website.

First Holy Communion

A First Holy Communion parents' meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th April at 19:00 in the Parochial Hall.

Fundraising for Trocaire

Many thanks for your tremendous support for our fundraising during Lent. The total amount raised through all of the different activities was £3189.60 - a record amount.

Citizen of the Month

Every month the achievements and efforts of individual children in each class are recognised in Assembly with our special Citizen of the Month presentation. Congratulations to all our current winners for March - Eoin(P1A), Maciej(P1B), Alexander(P2A), Caleb(P2B), Daithi(P3A), Yasmin(P3B), Anna(P4A), Julia(P4B), Daniel(P5A), Khristien(P5B), Nikitta(P6A), Elijah(P6B), Maeve(P7A) and Aaron(P7B).

Standardised Testing

Standardised tests in English and Mathematics will commence the week beginning Monday 30th April for all P3-7 pupils. The purpose of these tests are to:

- measure the progress of pupils in these important curricular areas;
- identify areas of the curriculum which pupils are finding difficult;
- help teachers set appropriate targets in English and Maths for individual pupils and their classes; and
- help in the identification of pupils who are experiencing difficulties in these areas at this time.

Maths resources for parents

Three parent booklets, provided by Timothy Doyle, a local numeracy/maths consultant, giving advice on how you can help your child with maths in the evening, have been placed on the school's website

Class photos

Class photographs will be taken by the photographer on Friday 20th April.

Healthy Snacks

The school has a healthy-eating policy in place and encourages pupils to bring in healthy foods for both break and lunch. The pupils are generally very good at what they bring in for snacks and we thank our parents for their support and ask you to continue helping us to implement this policy by sending in healthy options with the children, and avoiding the non-healthy alternatives.

After-school clubs

After-school clubs are due to commence the week beginning Monday 23rd April 2018. Please note that no clubs will take place during the week beginning 7th May and 28th May. This block of clubs will last for 7 weeks, concluding on Friday 22nd June.

Day	Club 14:05 - 15:00	Club 15.05 - 16:00
Monday	Soccer P2 Dodgeball P3	School Soccer team (selected) P4/5 Dodgeball P4 Transfer club P6
Tuesday	Netta P2/P3 (Girls) Gaelic P2/3 Music P2/3	Netball P6/7 (Girls) Gaelic P4/5 Gaelic P6/7
Wednesday	Soccer P1 (indoors)	School Soccer team (selected) P6/7 Martial Arts/SelfDefence P7
Thursday	Soccer P3 Cricket P2/3	Irish Dancing P1-P7 Cricket P4-7 (outdoor) Rugby P6/7 (Strandtown)
Friday		Tennis P4/5 Gardening P4-7 Soccer Tournament P4-7

Children in receipt of free school meals are entitled to make an application for a waiver in fees by communicating directly with the class teacher or one of our clubs' coordinators.

Family Support NI Website

The Family Support NI website www.familysupportni.gov.uk is funded by the Health and Social Care Board and the Department of Health to provide all types of Family Support services, including registered childcare, throughout Northern Ireland.

In the last newsletter we asked:

The Hare and the Tortoise decide to race.

The race is 10 km (kilometres) long.

The hare runs at 10 times the speed of the tortoise.

The tortoise take 2 hours and 30 minutes to complete the race.

The hare arrives at the finish 30 seconds after the tortoise.

For how long does the hare sleep?

Now here's an answer

The tortoise takes 2 hrs 30 mins to complete the race.

Divide that by 10 to give you 15 mins (this is how long the hare takes).

Subtract 15 mins from 2 hrs 30 mins and then add the 30 seconds because the hare finishes 30 seconds after the tortoise.

So, the hare sleeps for 2 hours 15 minutes and 30 seconds.

Now here's a problem

Ten green bottles hanging on a wall

Ten green bottles hanging on a wall

If one green bottle should accidentally fall

There'd be nine green bottles hanging on the wall

Nine green bottles

If the first bottle fell at ten past five in the morning (5.10 a.m.) and the others fell down at 5 minute intervals, what would the time be when the last bottle fell down?

Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 18th April	First Communion Parents' Meeting at 19:00 in the Parochial Hall
Sunday 22nd April	Do This in Memory Of Me at 09:30 in St Colmcille's
Monday 7th May	Early May Bank Holiday
Tuesday 8th May	School Development Day 5 (School closed for pupils)
Thursday 10th May	Sports Day for P4-7 at Strandtown Playing Fields
Friday 11th May	Sports Day for P1-3 at Strandtown Playing Fields
Sunday 13th May	First Holy Communion for P4A at 11:30 in St Colmcille's
Sunday 20th May	First Holy Communion for P4B at 11:30 in St Colmcille's
Monday 28th May - Tuesday 29th May	Mid-term break
Friday 29th June	Last day of term (12:00 finish)