



Newsletter

Monday 4 February



St. Joseph's Primary School

Mid-Term Break

The school will close at 14:00 on Friday 15 February for the start of the mid-term break and will reopen on Monday 25 February.

School Enhancement Programme

St Joseph's Primary School has been selected, as part of the School Enhancement Programme, for a refurbishment or extension project, valued between £500,000 and £4 million. The Department has now authorised work to begin on scoping and preparing a business case for development. Should the business case be approved by the Department, an Integrated Consultant Team (ICT) will then be appointed to take forward the scheme design.

We are obviously delighted to have reached this stage in the process, but as you may appreciate, this is in the very early stages of development, and we are yet unsure of the timescale involved and the implications for the school.

Rest assured that we will keep you informed of developments as and when they occur.

Internet Safety Workshop & Online safety Resources for Parents

As a parent/carer you play a key role in keeping your child safe online. The internet is a great way for our children to learn, explore and connect with each other. However, it is rapidly changing and we are increasingly aware of the many associated dangers connected with its use. As a school we endeavour to support you as we try to keep your children safe.

With this in mind, we have teamed up with other East Belfast primary schools and the PSNI to organise an Internet Safety Workshop to be held on Wednesday 13 March, 18:30 - 20:30 in Orangefield Primary School.

Please do take this opportunity to become more informed about the issues of online safety in order to help safeguard your child. If you will be attending, please reply to the email you received from the school as we need to confirm an approximate number of attendees.

Tuesday 5 February is Internet Safety Day. All classes will be completing activities and/or discussions on this topic.

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 January - Jack(P1A), Cillian(P1B), Tom(P2A), Conor (P2B), Odhran(P3A), Eoin(P3B), Roman(P4A), Reuben(P4B), Yasmin(P5A), Aileen (P5B), Daniel(P6A), Skye(P6B), Muirinn(P7A) and Grace(P7B).

Success at Strathearn

Congratulations to our P7s, who participated in a very successful day at the Strathearn Activity Fun Day and were successful in bringing home more silverware for the ever expanding trophy cabinets.

Road Safety

Please heed the advice given to us by the PSNI in relation to parking around the school.

Do not

- park outside or opposite school gates.
- park on pavements.
- park across resident's driveways, entrances or dropped kerbs.
- obstruct the school crossing patrol.
- park opposite or within 15m of a junction.

Always

- keep your speed down and drive carefully past schools as pupils leave.
- respect those who live close to the school.
- leave the middle of the road free, with enough room for others to easily pass through.
- check for pedestrians and cyclists before opening a vehicle door.
- ensure your child leaves and enters your vehicle onto the pavement.
- cross any road with extreme care and attention.

- take care when reversing.
- ensure you and your passenger(s) wear seatbelts.

School Crossing Patrol

We have been informed that there will be no School Crossing patrol at Sandown Road/Newtownards Road from 14 February 2019 for 6 to 8 weeks

Up and coming events...

- Swimming lessons start for P7 at Avoniel Leisure Centre.
- Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 5 February.
- P2A to visit Mitchel House on Wednesday 6 February.
- P7 (selected pupils) indoor soccer at Shankill Leisure Centre on Wednesday 6 February.
- P7 receive an Internet Safety Workshop on Friday 8 February.
- P7A participate in a Peace Island Workshop with Elmgrove Primary, the week beginning Monday 11 February.
- P6 pupils participate in the P6 cup v St Claire's at the Grosvenor Leisure Centre on Tuesday 12 February.

Holidays

We are in the process of finalising the holiday list for 2019/2020 and will send it to you shortly. For those planning breaks during the autumn term, we can confirm that pupils will be returning to school on Monday 2 September and the Hallowe'en break will be from Monday 28 October until Friday 1 November.

Lost Property

You can find the lost property basket in the shelter area of the playground. Have a rummage, you never know what you might retrieve.

Dinner money

To help with administration, please ensure that dinner money is paid using ParentPay in advance or on the day that the dinner is taken.

Music fees

The 2nd term music fees for the pupils receiving weekly tuition from the School of Music tutors are now due. The cost this year is £50 per term or £150 per annum and can be paid via ParentPay.

For your information

Please note that the Designated Teacher and Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection in St Joseph's are Mr Donaldson and Mr McDowell respectively.

In the last newsletter we asked:

In a knockout tennis tournament there are 32 contestants.

- How many matches will the eventual winner play?*
- How many matches will there be in total?*

Now here's an answer

The winner will eventually play 5 matches.
There will be a total of 31 matches

Now here's a problem

I'm thinking of a number.

My number is both a multiple of 5 and a multiple of 6

What could my number be? What else could it be? What is the smallest number it could be?

I'm thinking of a number.

My number is a multiple of 4, 5 and 6.

What could my number be? What else could it be? What is the smallest number it could be?

Dates for Your Diary

Friday 15 February	14:00 finish for whole school
Monday 18 February - Friday 22 February	Mid-term break Break (school closed)
Wednesday 27 February	First Reconciliation parents' meeting in the Parochial Hall at 19:00
Monday 4 March	Service of Light/P7 parents' Confirmation meeting at 19:00 in St Colmcille's
Monday 11 March - Friday 15 March	Parent/teacher meetings (classes finish at 14:00 all week)
Monday 18 March	School Development Day (School closed for pupils)
Sunday 24 March	Confirmation in St Colmcille's at 11:30
Tuesday 26 March	Sacrament of First Reconciliation at 18:30 in St Colmcille's
Thursday 18 April	12:00 finish for whole school
Friday 19 April - Friday 26 April	Easter holidays
Monday 6 May	Early May Bank Holiday
Saturday 11 May	First Holy Communion for P4A and Evening Class at 11:30 in St Colmcille's
Saturday 18 May	First Holy Communion for P4B at 11:30 in St Colmcille's
Monday 27 May - Tuesday 28 May	School Development Days (School closed for pupils)
Friday 28 June	Last day of term (12 noon finish)