

St Eugene's PS, Victoria Bridge

Newsletter

January 2022



The Sad Passing of Brian Conlan.

The Board of Governors, staff and entire school community would like to express their deepest sympathy to the Conlan family on the death of Brian. Brian was a man of great integrity and loyalty, he was truly dedicated to our school, here in Victoria Bridge. Brian served on our Board of Governors since 1998. For many of these 24 years he held the position of Chair of Governors, during this time there were various challenges, however, Brian navigated the school through any storm that came its way, with his calm and measured approach that we all admired and respected. Brian always had the well-being of the children at the centre of any decision he made. He will be sorely missed by all in our community. We keep his wife Mary, his children and extended family in our thoughts and prayers.

School Swimming Lessons.

We are delighted to announce that we are once again in a position to bring our P5/6/7 children to Riversdale Leisure Centre for School Swimming Lessons. The children will enjoy sessions beginning on the 28th of January right up until mid-June. Each Friday afternoon P5/6/7 will travel to the Swimming Pool using EA transport accompanied by Mr Paul Donnelly and Mrs Stacey Preston, they will leave school at 1.15pm and return for 2.30pm. To help cover the costs of the swimming sessions & transport, parents are asked to contribute £25 for their child. The £25 should be sent in a clearly marked envelope by Friday 21st of January.

Goodbye Mrs Cawley!

Mrs Cawley officially retired from her job as Foundation Stage Classroom Assistant on the 21st of December, however, we didn't get the chance to give her the send-off she deserved. She will visit us on Friday 14th of January for a special retirement celebration. We thank Mrs Cawley for her 21 years of service, she has played a huge role in the education of our children here at St Eugene's PS and she will be greatly missed by all.

Reminders

Milk has been ordered for all those children who took school milk during term one. The cost of milk for this term is: £13.60.

Please send milk money in a marked envelope at your earliest convenience.

Starting School at St Eugene's PS

The EA admissions portal to apply for a Reception or P1 place at St Eugene's PS is now open until the 28th of January. If you are considering our award winning rural school for your child, please contact the office to arrange a private visit. The Prospectus is available at www.steugenesps.com.

Important Dates

10th Jan — EA Primary Admission Portal Opens

21st Jan — Principal of Sacred Heart College visits P6/7.

26th Jan — Poetry Society Workshops with P6/7.

28th Jan — EA Primary Admission Portal Closes.

- Swimming Lessons begin for KS2

1st Feb — Post Primary Admission Portal Opens.

2nd Feb — Coding Workshops P6/7.

5th Feb — Transfer Test Results.

11th — School Closes for February Mid-Term Break at 3.15pm.

21st Feb — School Re-opens after Mid-Term Break.

23rd Feb — Post Primary Admission Portal Closes.



Below: Jo Jingles session for our Foundation Stage children funded by Victoria Bridge Cross Community Group



Below: 3rd Dec:
Daily Mile Santa Run Through the Village



Post Primary Applications

If you have a child in our current P7 class, now is the time to start thinking about their Post Primary Education. The EA will open their Post Primary Admission Portal on Tuesday 1st of February. You are asked to try to list 4 choices of school. The Portal will close again on the 23rd of February. If you have any queries about Post Primary Education, you can arrange to speak to Mr Donnelly via telephone or contact your Post Primary school of choice.

Christmas Show & Raffle

Thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas Show in the Farmer's Hall, we are sure you will agree that it was a great success and it was brilliant to have a live audience once again. The children did everyone proud with their amazing performances and we managed to raise £1300 from ticket sales alone. We will communicate the amount raised from the Christmas Raffle via text when all monies have been counted. We hope to use this money to purchase another active panel board to further enhance teaching and learning here at St Eugene's PS.

Sacramental Dates

10th March — P4 First Confession @ 2pm in Assembly Hall.

7th April — P7 Confirmation @ 5pm in St Theresa's Church, Sion Mills.

14th May — P4 First Holy Communion @ 11am in St Theresa's Church, Sion Mills.

Covid-19 Guidelines

We are experiencing an increase in Covid-19 in our school community.

- If your child is feeling in **any way unwell** please do not send them to school. If your child displays symptoms of Covid-19 such as a temperature above 37.8, a cough or loss of taste and/or smell you must book a PCR test and isolate until you receive a negative result. Children must wait for 48 hours from the temperature subsides before returning to school. Children who are positive must isolate and follow the advice from track and trace.
- If your child is identified as a close contact of someone who has Covid-19 you must carry out Lateral Flow Tests on your child daily for 10 days. If the Lateral Flow tests are negative your child can attend school as normal.
- If a member of your child's household is positive, we request that children are kept at home to protect pupils and staff.

Remember that a copy of this newsletter can also be downloaded from our school website www.steuenesps.com.