



CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF EDUCATION AT ST EUGENE'S PS.

A copy of this newsletter can be downloaded from our website www.steugenesps.com at any time. We encourage our parents, grandparents and extended families to 'like' and 'follow' our Facebook and Twitter accounts to be kept up to date with all our exciting news at St Eugene's PS.

Key Dates	Arrangements:
Friday 28 th May	SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS Staff Day – Report Writing
Monday 31 st of May	SCHOOL CLOSED BANK HOLIDAY
Friday 4 th June	P7 Confirmation – St Theresa's Church at 5pm.
Monday 7 th & Tuesday 8 th June	Sustrans Events in School for all Year Groups.
Wednesday 23 rd of June	Education Minister to visit St Eugene's PS!
Monday 28 th of June	P7 Leaver Assembly.
Wednesday 30 th June	End of Term – School closes at 12pm.

LAST MONTH OF SCHOOL

Please remember that the school is closed on Friday 28th and Monday 31st of May. Pupils will return on Tuesday 1st of June for their last month of school. We have an action packed few weeks ahead so please read all details of this newsletter carefully.

THE SACRAMENTS

Children in P4 and P7 have been busy preparing for their Sacraments. Yesterday our P4 children received the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we are so proud of how well these boys and girls did on their special day. Thank you to Fr Canning, Miss Mayse, Mrs Preston and to the grown-ups at home who all worked so hard to prepare the children. Fr Canning is yet to finalise a date for the First Holy Communion, but has indicated that it will take place towards the end of September.

Our P7 children will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit at their Confirmation next Friday 4th of June in St Theresa's Church, Sion Mills. The Confirmation begins at 5pm and the children and their families should be in their seats for 16.50 at the very latest. Special arrangements for our P7 children finishing school early on this date have been posted on Seesaw. The Confirmation children can wear their outfits to school on Monday 7th of June but will need to bring PE clothes to change into for Gaelic with Fiachra after break.

SUSTRANS

You will be aware that we are an active travel school with Sustrans NI. On Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th of June, Richard Farrow will visit our school to carry out a range of activities with our boys and girls. Richard will start each morning with a 'Ditch the Stabilisers' workshop for the children in Miss Gormley's class. This workshop involves children bringing their bicycles to school and parents attending for a one-hour session to help their child learn to ride without stabilisers. The workshop will begin at 9.30am and full details will be posted on Seesaw next week. Children in P3-P7 will enjoy cycling proficiency, playground orienteering and a playground scavenger hunt and therefore are invited to bring their bikes to school for these two days. It is sure to be a great experience for everyone and we are feeling very privileged to be able to offer these programmes to our boys and girls.

END OF YEAR TESTING

We will be carrying out our end of year assessments up until the 11th of June. These assessments will give us an idea of our children's capabilities and allow us to target set for the year ahead. Please do not worry about this process as it is simply to inform the school about where our children are at after the school closures due to the pandemic. Parents will be informed of the results at Parent-Teacher meetings in the next academic year. Due to testing written homework will cease from Friday 4th of June, reading, spellings, key words and sounds will continue until 25th of June.

GLORIA PERRY WORKSHOP

On Monday 14th of June Mr Gormley's class will take place in a t-shirt design workshop via Zoom with local artist Gloria Perry. Gloria will help the boys and girls design a t-shirt for the Fan the Flame Mass that will take place via webcam on the following Monday 21st of June.

SPORTS DAY

We plan to hold our annual sports day on Friday 18th of June (weather permitting). This year our sports will be for staff and pupils only due to the pandemic. The children will enjoy all the usual races, activities and even a barbeque. We are all very much looking forward to the event.

P7 POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Our P7 children will be informed of their new Post-Primary Schools on Saturday 19th of June. We hope that our boys and girls are happy with the news they receive, however, it is worth remembering that sometimes things work out for a reason! We are so incredibly proud of our P7 class and know that they will do well in whatever school they attend.

P7 LEAVERS

We plan to hold a special FUN DAY for our P7 leavers on Friday 25th of June, this will be a day to spoil our P7 boys and girls and end the year on a high as they finish their primary school journey. This event will be followed by a leaver's assembly on Monday 28th of June. Two adults per child are invited to attend for an open air event on Monday 28th, strict social distancing will be in place and all adults must wear a face covering unless medically exempt. P7 children will officially finish at the end of the leaver's assembly but are still welcome to attend informally on Tuesday 19th and the half day on Wednesday 30th of June.

FOREST FRIDAYS

The Forest Ranger from the Clandeboye Estate will visit our school on 25th of June for a fun day of outdoor learning with Miss Gormley's class. We look forward to the day and are excited for our Forest School journey to continue, we hope that St Eugene's PS will be a recognised Forest School in Northern Ireland in the very near future.

SHARED EDUCATION

Our classes are all involved in Shared Education again this year. Our theme due to the pandemic is 'Share the Walk'. Each class will be involved in a number of walks and outdoor experiences that will be photographed and shared with our partner schools. We look forward to seeing the walks from St Patrick's PS and also The Model PS, Newtownstewart!

END OF YEAR REPORTS

Staff will be writing the end of year reports and these will be distributed to families on Monday 28th of June. The format will be slightly different this year to reflect DE guidance as a result of the pandemic.

EXCITING NEWS – EDUCATION MINISTER TO VISIT ST EUGENE'S PS!!!!

The Minister of Education is planning a visit to the Strabane area and has selected St Eugene's PS as his Primary School of choice to visit whilst in the area. We are feeling incredibly privileged that our school has been selected and we can't wait to show him everything that is great about our fantastic rural school.

RETURN TO SCHOOL FOR 2021/2022

All details of the return to school will be included in our next newsletter which will be issued before the end of June along with the holidays for next year. For those planning ahead here are some details:

- **Tuesday 24th of August** – staff return.
- **Tuesday 31st of August** – P2-P7 attend until 12pm (no lunch)
- **Wednesday 1st September** – P1–P7 attend (normal hours for P2-7) *Breakfast Club begins at 8.15am.*
- **Monday 13th of September** – Reception begin.