

St Eugene's PS, Victoria Bridge

Newsletter

February 2023



Changes to School Calendar!

The Department of Education have notified us of a change to the school calendar. Monday 8th of May has been declared an official bank holiday to mark the King's Coronation. On our original calendar, school was due to be closed to pupils on Friday 28th of April, we have decided to move this closure to the weekend of the Coronation. The May closures are now as follows:

- Monday 1st May - Bank Holiday
- Friday 5th May - School Closure
- Monday 8th May - Bank Holiday
- Monday 29th May - Bank Holiday.

Post-Primary Applications!

Thank you to our P7 parents for applying promptly for your child's Post-Primary School Place. It is hard to believe that our P7 children are now in their final months of Primary School. The EA will notify you of the outcome of your application on the 20th of May, via the online portal.

Grandparents Art Workshop 2023

On Wednesday 1st of March, we will once again welcome Artist Gloria Perry to our school for our annual Intergenerational Workshop. The workshop will run for the duration of the school day and refreshments will be provided for the adults.

Grandparents taking part must bring an extra-large, plain white t-shirt with them on the day, which will be cut up to form part of the art piece.

World Book Day 2023

Friday 3rd of March marks World Book Day 2023. This year we ask each child to bring their favourite book to school to be used during classroom activities to celebrate the event.

Dance Hall Project

Our P5/6/7 children have been invited to take part in a Dance Hall historical project with Edwards PS, through the Rural Housing Association. Children involved will attend rehearsals on Wednesday mornings and the project will end with a celebration event on Wednesday 29th of March.

Reminders!!!

School Photographer

Tempest will be in school on Monday 20th of March to take school photographs. Parents should ensure that all children are in full school uniform on this day, including their tie and navy jumper. A gentle reminder that all children should be wearing black shoes (boots are not acceptable for H&S reasons), hair accessories should be in keeping with school colours and novelty hairbands with ears, horns, points etc are again not permitted due to health and safety concerns. We thank you for your continued support and co-operation with uniform.

Telephoning the Office



Please be advised that Mrs Gallagher does not start work until 9.30am, therefore, there is no one available to take calls before this time. Other staff are tied up in morning briefings and other duties. If you are calling before 9.30am a recorded message can be left on the answer phone.

Important Dates:

26th February - Mass for First Communion Children & their Parents in St Theresa's Church, Sion Mills at 11am.

1st March - P6 Grandparents Art Workshop with Gloria Perry.

3rd March - Drawing & Talking Therapy Resumes.

7th March - Annual Reviews for statemented children.

8th March - Gaelic Blitz for KS2 girls.

- Dance Hall Project for P5/6/7 begins.

17th March - St Patrick's Day - School Closed.

25th March - P7 Confirmation in St Theresa's Church Sion Mills at 11:30am

4th April - School Closes at 12 noon to pupils for Easter Break.

17th April - School Resumes for Term 3, Breakfast Club and 2.15 Club will be running as normal.



Integrated Education Update

Our Case for Change to become an Integrated School is in the final stages of development and will be submitted to EA on 15th of March. Our proposal will then go through consultation with the EA before going forward to DE, then eventually to the Minister for Education or in their absence the Permanent Secretary. We will keep you fully informed of all developments as we progress on this exciting journey.

- We are continuing to collect COMMUNITY SUPPORT FORMS (QR CODE ABOVE OR CLICK): <https://forms.office.com/e/SCcNYyK5XN>
- We also welcome EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR PLACES (QR CODE ABOVE OR CLICK): <https://forms.office.com/e/j2RNFZrdsC>



Girl's Gaelic Team

Congratulations and well done to the KS2 girl's Gaelic team for their efforts at a recent Blitz in St Theresa's PS. The girls will attend their next Blitz on Wednesday 8th of March at the Station Centre in Omagh, we wish them all the very best of luck!



Thank you, Mary!

Mary from the CHILD Project has been in school conducting a series of workshops with Mr Donnelly's class to help make sure that the children are ready for the transition to Post-Primary. The children enjoyed their last session this week. We would like to thank Mary for coming to St Eugene's PS to provide such vital and fun workshops for the class.



NIFRS Workshop for P5

Thank you to the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue service for carrying out a fire safety workshop with our P5 children. Lots of important safety messages were shared with the boys and girls - knowledge for life!



Small Groups with Miss Mayse

Many of you will be aware that funding has been provided by the Department to enable us to provide small group support for children in our school. This funding is only guaranteed until the end of March 2023, which is fast approaching! We are hopeful that funded may be extended until at least the end of June to enable Miss Mayse to be able to continue to provide this support for the children involved. This funding makes such a positive difference and will be greatly missed if it is withdrawn by the Department.