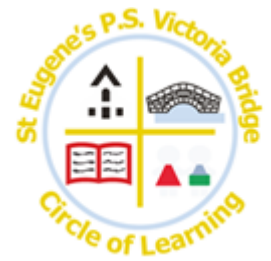


# St Eugene's PS, Victoria Bridge

## Newsletter

February 2024



### Post-Primary Applications Open 30<sup>th</sup> Jan — 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb!

EA CONNECT is now live for parents of P7 children to make their application to Post Primary Schools. All information can be found on the EANI website, a guide was also uploaded to Seesaw on 16<sup>th</sup> of January. If additional information is required or any difficulty is experienced, parents can contact the admissions helpdesk Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm on: 028 9598 5595.



### Superhero Week for AutismNI.

Next week is autism awareness week. We will be celebrating the diverse range of children within our school throughout the week and will finish our celebrations with a Superhero Fancy Dress on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> of February. Children not wishing to dress as a Superhero can wear their own clothes on this day.

### Pupil Health and Wellbeing.

A priority for our school is always the health and wellbeing of our school community. We aim to provide a range of activities and events which promote health and wellbeing for the children in our care. Children's Mental Health week begins next week, and we look forward to ReNew You visiting for a special workshop with our KS2 children. Anne will be continuing her Counselling Sessions and a new block will commence for children on her list later this month. Rois Kelly will begin a series of wellbeing and resilience workshops with P5/6, this will be done through music and drama. Later in February a small group of children will be meeting with the NI Children's Commissioner in Omagh.

### Reminders!!!

#### Punctuality!

There has been an increase in the number of children arriving late for school each day. Please note that class starts at 9.15, this means children should be in their seats ready to begin their day at this time. Staff will bring children inside from the playground at 9.10. If your child arrives after this time, they should ring the doorbell at the front door so that they can be marked present at the office. Arriving late will impact your child's attendance as this is recorded on SIMS which is monitored by Education Welfare.



#### 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:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> February — Free Friday Breakfast begins for KS1.
- 5<sup>th</sup> February — Children's Mental Health Week.
- 6<sup>th</sup> February — Safer Internet Day.
- 6<sup>th</sup> February — Final ReNew You session for KS2.
- 7<sup>th</sup> February — School Nurse for P1 Health Checks.
- 9<sup>th</sup> February — Superhero Non-Uniform Day for AutismNI.

#### SCHOOL CLOSED

12<sup>th</sup> — 16<sup>th</sup> February inclusive (mid-term break)

- 22<sup>nd</sup> February — Pupil Council Members meet with NI Children's Commissioner in Omagh.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> February — Children & Staff to wear RED for World Encephalitis Awareness Day.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> February — EA Connect Closes for Year 8 Applications.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> February — Rois Kelly begins Wellbeing & Resilience through drama and music programme with P5/6.



### Morning Prayer

After our February Mid-Term Break, morning prayer will be offered each day in our Hall at 9.05am. This will be led by Miss O' Brien and is open to all pupils. Whether your child attends this or not will be purely parental choice, however, we do expect children in Year 4 and Year 7 who are receiving the Sacraments this year to be in attendance. Parents should speak to their child at home and advise them to proceed into the Hall each morning if they would like to be part of the prayer session. Children not taking part will be supervised as normal in the playground.



### Safe & Sound Programme.

Mr Donnelly has been busy arranging a new programme for KS2 children. Each week Mrs Preston will be withdrawing small groups from the KS2 class to engage in the Safe and Sound Programme. These sessions focus on safety and health in a fun and engaging way which is targeted at children of this age. We hope that these groups will benefit greatly from this intervention.



### 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!



### Thank you Trocaire.

Mr Donnelly's Class enjoyed a Game Changers workshop this week with Trocaire. The children will now begin work on designing their own games, with the knowledge and skills they gained from taking part in the workshop. This work links in with Mr Donnelly and the Eco-Committee's goal of working toward Green Flag Status. Keep up the great work!



### Pre-School Stay & Play.

We held another fully booked Stay and Play event for Pre-School children in January. It was lovely to see plenty of familiar and new faces, many of whom have applied to join our circle of learning in 24/25. We look forward to seeing you and your little ones again soon.



### Grandparents' Breakfast.

A huge thank you to all those who attended our Grandparents' Breakfast last week. It was great to see such a big turnout, we hope that you all had a lovely morning. Thank you to Miss Ni Reannachain (our student teacher) for the music and to our choir for the singing. A special thank you to the children and staff who helped before and during the event. Next year we will look at offering two sessions, to make the event more enjoyable for everyone given our growing school enrolment.