



## St. Ronan's Primary and Nursery School

### February 2023 Newsletter



**Mid-term break** - School will be closed Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February inclusive. School reopens on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

**Industrial action** - At this point, the school will be closed on the morning of Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February due to teachers taking industrial action. More details will be sent out as they are confirmed.

**Parish Children's Mass** - Next Mass takes place on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 11am in Holy Cross Church.

**Choir** - Karen McElroy continues to take choir on Thursday afternoons from 3 - 4pm.

**Welcome** - We welcome Maire McAteer in her capacity as Youth Co-ordinator in Aghalurcher Parish. Maire will be visiting and supporting the school over the coming months.

**Sacraments** - The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in Holy Cross Church on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm for Mr Foy's class and 5pm for Mr Shannon's class.

First Penance takes place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in Holy Cross Church.

First Holy Communion takes place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 11am for Mrs McGirr's class and 2pm for Mr Hanna's class.

Service of Light for P7 pupils takes place on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 7pm in Holy Cross Church.

**Catholic Schools Week** - It was great to see so many attending Grandparents Day; a regular fixture during Catholic Schools Week. They were regaled with prayer, song and instrumental from 4AMG, 4PH, 5CC, 5/6MS. Many thanks to pupils and staff for their work and effort.

Mrs Fitzpatrick's P3 class also hosted grandparents to help make St. Brigid's Crosses.

**Child Mental Health Week** - The theme this year is 'Let's Connect'. During the week 6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> February, we will have organisations from our local community connecting with each class.

**Non-uniform day** - For the last day of Child Mental Health Week (10<sup>th</sup> Feb), we are having a non-uniform day. Each class will be designated a colour to wear on the day. Don't worry if you don't have that colour, just choose another colour. Suggested donation is £1 per child.

Nursery and P1	Red
P2CM	Orange
P2/3MB	Orange
P3RF	Yellow
P4AMG, PH	Green
P5CC	Blue
P5/6MS	Blue
P6SMA	Purple
P7ES, PF	Purple

**Safer Internet Day** - takes place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February. The theme is 'Together for a safer internet'.

**Post-primary admissions** - Applications for P7 pupils transferring to post-primary education in September open on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 12noon. Applications can be made through the EA website [www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions](http://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions)

The portal for applications closes on 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

**World Book Day** - takes place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Children are welcome to come to school dressed up as their favourite book character or in their own clothes. As the cost of living continues to impact on families, we do not expect anyone to purchase costumes etc.

**Autism Awareness Week NI** - This week is held to raise awareness of autism in school and in society. Children will be given a number of activities to complete during the week (27 Feb - 3 Mar). A sponsorship form will be sent home with children also. Please give what you can as all funds will be sent to Autism NI. On Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> March children can dress up as a superhero from clothes found at home (note this is also the date for dress-up for World Book Day).

**Football / Hurling** - Teams of girls and boys attended indoor competitions over the past month. The skills demonstrated by everyone were excellent. Well done to everyone for taking part, trying their best and for displaying excellent behaviour. The boy's football team have progressed to the final of the county stage and this will take place in early March in Castlepark Centre.

**Road Safety Quiz** - Well done to P7 pupils Fianna, Sarah, Oisin and Conor for participating in the NI Road Safety quiz held recently in Omagh.

**Attendance** - This continues to be monitored on a weekly basis. It is important that children attend school for continuity and success in learning and to form strong friendships with peers. In Term 1, 34 children achieved full attendance. Unfortunately, there is a growing list of children being absent on a regular basis without any valid reason. I ask parents to ensure children attend school unless they are ill.

**PTFA** - The PTFA welcomes new members to assist with and organise activities. Please contact a committee member or the school if you wish to join.

**Cookery Demonstration** - Jolene Cox (One Yummy Mummy) and her daughter Lils will be hosting a Cookery Demonstration in St Ronan's Parish Hall on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 2:30pm. Tickets are £10 per adult and £5 per child and are available from the school. Refreshments will be served. All funds will be donated to the school. Thank you to Jolene for offering this demonstration free of charge.

### **Regular Diary Dates**

Monday	After school basketball (3 - 4pm)
Tuesday	Relax Kids Musical Pathways (3MB, 3RF, 4AMG, 4PH) After school basketball (3 - 4pm)
Wednesday	GAA Coach - KS2 pupils Irish Language classes (all year groups) Speech and Language Therapy Play Therapy

Thursday	Clarinet tuition
	Choir (3 - 4pm)
Friday	Swimming (7ES)
	PE P1 - P4
	Tin whistle lessons (P5 - P7)
Mon - Fri	P1, P2 (2 - 3pm Club)
Mon - Thurs	Homework Club (3 - 5pm)