

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



April 2022

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely Easter break and Bank Holiday weekend, and managed to spend some quality time with your family. It is hard to believe we are in the final term of this academic year. Please continue to refer to the school website and sign up to the App for notifications of important events and information.

Arrangements for First Holy Communion,

The boys and girls in Primary Four will be making their First Communion on Saturday 14th May. As Covid is still very much in the community restrictions will still be in place for each of the sacraments. Fr Peter has advised us that parents, siblings and grandparents of the children making their **First Communion** are permitted to attend the Mass. Face coverings are advised. All family members and Primary Four pupils must be seated in the chapel by 10:45am.

There will be a class photo taken straight after the service where all communicants will be invited up to the altar.

The boys and girls making their First Communion, along with their families, are invited back to St Joseph's for light refreshments and a few treats after the service.

We look forward to seeing you there to celebrate this very special sacrament.



Arrangements for Confirmation



The boys and girls in Primary Seven will be making their Confirmation on Wednesday 18th May at 11:00am. As covid is still very much within our community Fr Peter has advised that only the parents, siblings and grandparents of the child making their Confirmation may attend. The wearing of face masks is advised when inside the chapel. We appreciate your support and understanding with this.

The children will come to school as normal on Wednesday morning, wearing their full school uniform. Mr Rooney will walk the children down to the chapel after break. All family members are asked to be seated in the chapel by 10:45am.

Following the service, Mr Rooney's class will be invited up to the altar for a class photo.

The boys and girls making their Confirmation may go home after the service with their parents.



The whole school went to see Bedknobs and Broomsticks in the Grand Opera House, in Belfast. The bus arrived for us at school after lunch. We were all very excited! When we arrived at the Grand Opera House we were shown to our seats. Then the show started. It was amazing.

The children were orphans and there was a farmer person. The lady who took the three kids was a witch and the kids saw her flying on her broomstick. They wanted to help her do her magic. The youngest boy, Paul, tapped and rubbed the bedknob and this took them on adventures. It was fun seeing the bed fly.

I thought the show was really good and magical. It was very funny in parts too!!

After the show we got back on the bus and arrived back at school. We were all very tired after the journey, but it was worth it!! Thank you to the PTFA for a wonderful trip to the Grand Opera House.
Leo, P.5 Mr Rooney



Breakfast Club runs every day from 8:15am to 8:45am at a cost of £1 per day. Children have a choice of cereals, breads and pancakes, juice milk and tea with bacon on a Wednesday and sausages on a Friday.

Any child in school before 8:45am will be presumed to be at Breakfast Club and will be charged accordingly.

Child Protection Procedures

St Joseph's safeguarding team are:

Designated Teacher: Mrs K Collins

Deputy Designated Teachers: Mrs C Toner and Mrs J Maguire

Chairperson of the Board of Governors: Mr J Kearney

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First Confession

Congratulations to the boys and girls in Mrs Toner and Mrs Maguire's class who made their First Confession. The children were an absolute credit to their families and prepared so reverently for this occasion. Many thanks to Fr Peter for his co-ordination with the school to ensure the smooth running of the sacrament and for the beautiful ceremony. Thanks also to Mrs Toner, Mrs Fallon and Miss Carville for helping prepare the children and to Mr Rooney and the school choir for the lovely music which added to the occasion.



Gaelic Team



St Joseph's Gaelic team have made a great start to the season. Mr Rooney's class competed in the Lecale Cluster Gaelic Blitz in Saul. The girls team made it to the final where they met St Patrick's PS, Saul. After a nail biting match, the girls narrowly missed out in the top position by just one goal. The other team representing St Joseph's showcased some amazing skills throughout their five matches. Mr Rooney commented on how proud he was of all the players. They were a credit to our school and to their families.

The Gaelic team played their first league match against St Mary's PS, Killyleagh, last week. They were thirteen points down at half time but they dug deep, fought hard for possession and made an incredible comeback in the second half, losing by just four points. Well done to all the players and their coach, Mr Rooney.

After-school Clubs

The new timetable for our After School Clubs went out last week which includes Table Tennis, Ball Games, Cookery Club, Gardening Club and Acti-Sport. This term we are extending the hours for the children in Primary One to Primary Three to allow them to stay until 4:00pm, Monday to Wednesday. Transfer Club will run as normal for just the Primary Six children on a Thursday 3:00-4:00pm. In order to ensure we have sufficient staffing levels to cover the after school clubs each day we need to know the number of children attending in advance. It is important to book your child in for the after school clubs at the beginning of each week in order to ensure they are allocated a place.



Happy Birthday

To Lucy Halpin
and Ava Barr
who both have
Birthdays in
April.

School App

Our school is now listed in the Schools NI App, which allows you to view school updates and receive messages via your phone or tablet. The App is available on both Apple and Android devices, and will give you access to our school news, calendar, events and newsletters.

To install the App, open our school website on your phone or tablet and click the 'Download App' button that appears at the top of the screen.



Schools NI
Receive school updates via your
phone

Download App

Dates for your diary

Saturday 14th May
Monday 16th May
Wednesday 18th May
Wednesday 25th May
Tuesday 31st May
Friday 17th June
Thursday 23rd June
Friday 24th June
Thursday 30th June

P4 First Holy Communion at 11:00am
Photographer for P1, P7 and Holy Communion Photos
P7 Confirmation at 11:00am
Mini-Music (P.1 & P.2)
Sports Day (Weather Permitting)
KS2 Netball Tournament in St Joseph's PS, Ballycruttle
Mr Rooney's End of Year Trip to Let's Go Hydro
Primary Seven Leavers Assembly & Last Day
School finishes for all pupils at 11:00am