

St. Mary's Primary School



New Faces in Primary 1 with their Buddies



Pictured are the new Primary 1 pupils who have started school. We welcome Sarah, Lucy, Luka, Emily, Ryan, Aoife, Peter, Niall and Liam.

They are pictured with their P7 Buddies; Ellie, Aoife, Lily, Yasmine, Jordan, Declan, Adam, Rita, Josh, John, Conor, Alfie, Jay and Paddy.

We hope that our new pupils settle in and enjoy their Primary 1 year here in St. Mary's PS.



School Assembly

Mrs Hughes' P3-4

Class will present an Assembly on **Friday 28th September 2018** at **1.30pm**.

All parents, families and friends are welcome to attend.



Staff and pupils of St. Mary's PS, are taking part in the Annual Hospice Coffee Morning for Southern Area Hospice Services; Dungannon Day Hospice @ South Tyrone Hospital

The coffee morning will take place on Friday 21st September, from 9.30am - 11.30am in the School Sports Hall. Everyone is invited to come along for a cuppa and chat and support this worthy cause. More details to follow.



Shared Education



St. Mary's, in partnership, with Newmills PS have secured funding for 2018-19 from the Shared Education Signature Programme.

This will allow each class to have shared lessons with pupils from Newmills PS.

WELCOME



We welcome Miss Aimee Mullin, to St. Mary's, to teach Primary 5 this year.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

The 'After School Programme' for the Autumn Term will begin next week. We hope as many P1-P7 children as possible can avail of what is on offer.

As the school does not qualify for special funding (available to other schools) to run an after-school programme, we are sadly unable to offer the programme free to the children.



School Uniform

Parents are asked to ensure that their child's name is clearly marked on all school uniform, coats, school bags, lunch boxes and P.E. clothing. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated. Many thanks in advance.

SCHOOL MOTTO

'Caring, Sharing and Learning Together'



School Closure

The school will be closed on **Monday 1st October 2018**. (School Development Day).

Sickness in School

Should your child feel unwell in school, we will contact you to let you know and, if necessary, arrange for collection. It is therefore vitally important that the school has up-to-date contact details for parents— as well as a contact number in case of Emergency. Please contact Majella in the school office if your details change. It is also the policy of our school to make contact with parents should your child receive a bump to the head. It is then left to parents' own discretion whether the child stays in school or is taken home.

WHAT IS CONCUSSION?

A concussion is a brain injury which is usually caused by hitting your head or a fall. Concussions must be taken seriously. It is important to be able to recognise the signs and know how to respond.

SPOT THE SIGNS

If your child has been hit on the head or fallen, you need to look out for signs like these:

- A headache
- Feeling dazed or confused
- Feeling drowsy or sleepy
- Feeling sick
- Feeling 'irritable' or 'in a fog'
- Having difficulty remembering things
- Any other change in normal behaviour

Concussion does not always involve losing consciousness; you must take any of these symptoms seriously.



SWIMMING

Swimming begins for P5 on Wednesday 12th September. This is compulsory strand of the PE curriculum. Please ensure your child is punctual as the bus will be leaving at 9am. P6-7 will swim in Term 2; P3-4 in term 3.



DRAMA

Drama commences on Tuesday 11th September, for all pupils, with Stephanie Faloon.

Oxford Owl Maths

www.oxfordowl.co.uk/maths/

Check out 'Oxford Owl Maths' online – a free website to help support you and your child with maths ideas. Designed for children aged 3-7, you'll find age-specific maths advice, tips and lots of fun ideas, games and e-books to help you enjoy maths with your child.

A website is also available to develop children's reading at:

www.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/

Get prepared for P.E.!

Please ensure your child brings in their P.E. Kit next week. This kit should be left in school so that P.E. lessons are not missed when children forget their gear. Children will then be encouraged to bring the kit home half-termly for washing.

As children are involved in P.E. activities both indoors and outdoors (weather permitting), the following items should be available:

School PE Uniform

- Plain white round neck T-Shirt and navy shorts or School sports kit jersey and school kit shorts
- Trainers
- Navy track suit bottoms for outdoors

As part of the school's PE policy, and in the interests of health, safety and hygiene, children are required to change their clothing to participate in PE lessons. Children are reminded that PE uniform (e.g. track suit bottoms) may not be worn to school on days when PE is to take place as the 'changing' policy must be consistently followed. We thank parents for your co-operation with this.

Linguistic Phonics

The school adopts a 'Linguistic' approach to the teaching of Phonics. This approach provides children with strategies to help them problem-solve words for both reading and writing.

There are five principles that underpin Linguistic Phonics:

1. Sounds are represented by letters.
2. A sound may be presented by one or more letter.
3. The same sound can be represented in more than one way.
4. Longer words are made up of syllables.
5. The same spelling may represent more than one sound.

Listen to the sounds at

www.focusonphonics.co.uk/sound.htm

School Events During September/October

- ◆ Photographer will be in school on Monday 10th Sept
- ◆ P6-7 Gaelic coaching begins Monday 10th September
- ◆ Music with Kate McSherry begins on Monday 10th Sept
- ◆ FMS for P1-4 begin on Wednesday 12th September
- ◆ P5-7 will visit Dungannon Library on Thurs 20th Sept
- ◆ P2-7 Reading & Mental Maths Tests will be administered the last week of September
- ◆ All children will go home at 2pm on Friday 28th Sept to

facilitate Child Protection training for all staff

- ◆ P3-4 will visit the Ulster Museum Dinosaur Exhibition on Wednesday 3rd October
- ◆ Non Uniform Day on Friday 5th October £1 donation
- ◆ P3-4 will visit Dungannon Library on Thursday 11th October
- ◆ Poetry Day with local poet Mrs Maura Johnston on Thursday 18th October
- ◆ Flu Vaccine will be administered to all pupils on Friday 19th October
- ◆ P1-2 will visit Dungannon Library on Thursday 25th October

More school news from St.Mary's PS next month!