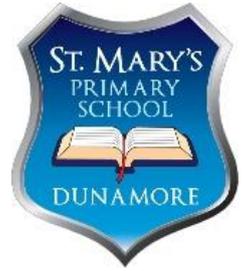


# St. Mary's News February 2024



Dear Parents,

The past few weeks have been a busy time for all the pupils in the school. The pupils are working hard and are participating in a wide range of learning experiences.

## **Morning Supervision**

Pupils arriving into school from 8.30am to 8.45am must go to the Assembly Hall where they will be supervised by staff members on morning duty. At 8.45am, pupils are escorted from the Assembly Hall to their classrooms by their class teacher. Pupils arriving after this time are to go directly to their classrooms. Children should NOT be dropped any earlier than 8.30am.

It is important that all pupils are in school for 9.15am as lessons begin promptly. We strongly encourage all pupils to arrive promptly to school as late comers can be disruptive to the teaching and learning. Pupils arriving after 9.20am will be marked late on the SIMS register.

## **Safeguarding for All**

In the interests of good safeguarding practices:

- Parents/guardians are asked to report to the general office if you are collecting your child early from school and sign the pupil out
- Visitors coming in to the school are to report to the general office and sign the Visitors Book.
- Unless you have been instructed to do so (e.g. in the case of Emergency First Aid) no adult/parent/guardian should walk down the corridor which leads to the main teaching area: including classrooms, resource area, computer suite and staff room at any time of the school day when pupils are about.



Could I also remind all parents/guardians to park in spaces to the left-hand side as you enter the school gates. Staff parking is available to the right of the gate. There have been on occasions over recent weeks where the buses have been unable to enter the school grounds easily due to a build-up of traffic. To ensure the safety of everyone, I ask for your cooperation in this matter, both at the morning drop off and home-times.

It is great to see so many children in their full school uniform looking so neat and tidy. Hoodies, half zips and skinnies etc should not be worn to school.

### **Catholic Schools' Week (21st January - 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024)**

The theme for Catholic Schools Week this year was Catholic Schools: Communities of Service. During Catholic Schools Week each class participated in various activities. On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January the Primary six class led a fantastic assembly focusing on gratitude and thanks. It was so heart-warming to see so parents and grandparents present. Thank you all for making the effort to attend.



Primary 5 will have their class assembly on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 10am. All parents/grandparents are warmly invited to attend.

### **Nut Free School**

In respect of those pupils who have nut allergies, no food containing any trace of nuts or nut essences are allowed in the school. (Nutella etc.)



### **Safer Internet Day 2024**

Today, Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February we celebrate UK Internet Safety Day. Over the coming days, all pupils participated in a range of ICT activities which promote Internet Safety Awareness. Please talk to your child about Internet Safety and the importance of staying safe online.

### **GAA Football**

Allianz Cumann na mBunscol Thír Eoghain will hold the first heat of its annual Boys' Indoor Football competition in Cookstown Leisure Centre on Wednesday



21st February. Boys from P7 will compete in an action-packed day of football. The Girls Indoor Football Competition will take place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February and hopefully another action-packed day awaits the girls! Good luck to all involved!

**Important Dates to note:**

**Non Uniform Day**

We will have a Non Uniform Day on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February. Everyone is asked to contribute £2 on Parent Pay. Many thanks for your support

Mid Term Break (School Closed) Monday 12<sup>th</sup>-Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February inclusive

**Ceremony of Light** for all children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation- Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March @ 6.30pm Mass in St. Mary's Church Dunamore.

**Sacrament of First Penance**- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March @ 1.30pm in St Mary's Church, Dunamore.

**Sacrament of Confirmation** - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April @5pm in St Joseph's Church, Kileenan

**Sacrament of the Eucharist** (First Holy Communion) Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May @11am

**Friends of St Mary's- AGM**

There will be a meeting on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February in the school at 3pm for all members. New parents are very welcome to attend and help support the school with fundraising.

At any time if you have any concerns or queries about your child's progress or welfare at school, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you have any comments or suggestions, feel free to contact the school.

Wishing you all a very restful Mid Term Break.

Thank you for your continued help and support.

Kind Regards,

*Eileen Ward*

Principal