

St. Clare's Primary School Newsletter

March 2020



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Log On to What We Do

There are now so many ways to keep in touch with what we do at St. Clare's PS and Nursery Unit. Why not log on and get a real feel for all we do and what we offer our community.

Visit our website on

www.stclaresps.com

Our Website also has a gallery of pictures of all the major events and successes celebrated by the pupils as well as important dates for your diary.

Or visit us on the following platforms:



Friends of St Clare's



@ClaresPs

Mr. C O'Doherty, Principal
Mr B. Birt Vice-principal

Don't forget every class from Nursery to P7 is using the SeeSaw App and this is a great way to stay in touch with us. It also allows us to send real time images of your child's achievements as they happen.

Make sure you access the code!!

St. Patrick's Day Break

School will close for the St. Patrick's Day celebrations on Monday and Tuesday 16th and 17th March. The school will open again for all pupils on Wednesday 18th March at the usual times.

Do This in Memory of Me



This Sunday sees the latest mass in preparation for First Holy Communion for the P4 pupils. The Do This in Memory of Me mass take place in the St. Paul's Church at 12 noon. The last mass was poorly attended, no doubt hindered by storm Ciara. However, these celebrations are a vital part of the overall preparation for First Holy Communion. We ask that all pupils in P4 attend this mass along with their parents. This was agreed at the beginning of the year and we would like to see all our P4 pupils at mass this Sunday. This is especially important as we are leading the ceremony this month. We look forward to seeing you there on Sunday. All those who are taking part in the readings and the offertory procession are asked to be in the church for 11.45am.

P3 Enrolment for First Confession

There is an enrolment ceremony for the P3 pupils who are preparing for First Confession in the school this coming Tuesday 10th March at 1.15pm in the school assembly hall. The children will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Tuesday 24th March at 11.00am at St. Paul's Church. Children can go home with their parents after the ceremony.

Sporting Success

What a month it has been for our soccer teams. The Boys and Girls have been taking part in the Belfast Heats of the Futsal competitions at Shankill Leisure Centre. Our Boys battled bravely throughout the competition and alas fell at the semi-final stage. However, our Girls' team were victorious in the competition lifting the title with a series of outstanding displays scoring 28 goals and conceding none over 7 games. They now progress to the regional finals later in the year being held in the Antrim Forum on 22nd April.

It proved to be a double success for the girls as the following day they were victorious again within the Belfast 5 a side competition. Well done to all those pupils who played with distinction in all teams representing the school as real ambassadors.

Nurture News

We celebrated World Book Day with a series of interactive lessons over the week. The highlight for the children was a STEM ice experiment. The Nurture Group are looking forward to attending 'Jabberbabble' in The Brian Friel Theatre QFT on Tue 10th March.

Newcomer Pupils Visit Dublin

Our Keystage 2 Newcomer pupils, along with Mrs Brennan and Mrs Bell, were invited to the grand opening of The Chester Beatty Museum in Dublin Castle this week. The exhibitions in the museum represented all faiths from around the world and the children enjoyed a fantastic tour followed by a delightful lunch.

Nursery News

This month in the nursery we are learning all about Spring Time and New Life. Lots of excitement as we will celebrate Mother's Day with a special handprint activity. We say goodbye to Mrs Walsh our student teacher who leaves this month, we will miss her and wish her all the best for her future career.

Confirmation

Last Thursday was a very special day for the P7 pupils, their parents and their Godparents as the boys and girls received the sacrament of Confirmation. This was a beautiful ceremony which was celebrated by Fr Eugene O'Hagan. Fr Eugene afterwards commented upon the outstanding preparation which the pupils had put in to the sacrament and also thanked all the pupils who participated in the ceremony from the readers to the soloists and those who took part in prayers, offertory procession and singing including the P6 pupils who acted as the choir for the day.

The school would like to thank Fr Devlin for his unending support in all we do and in this case for his meticulous preparation of the children. We also thank him for presentation of the booklet. Fr Devlin does so much for us behind the scenes and we are so grateful for his support and guidance, especially on days like Confirmation.

Assemblies

In the coming weeks there are two assemblies being presented to Parents. On Thursday 12th March P4 will present their assembly in the Assembly Hall at 9.30am. On Friday 20th March P2 will present their assembly to the parents again in the Assembly Hall at 9.30am. We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible from all the P4 and P2 classes attending these events

Green Day

As usual, prior to St. Patrick's Day, our school will be celebrating everything Irish on Friday 13th March. On this day the pupils will be entertained by song and dance. As this is a special occasion we invite the pupils to wear something green and to bring in a £1 for school funds. We hope all our families have a wonderful St. Patrick's Day

Friends of St. Clare's Events

The Friends of St. Clare's have been very busy over the past couple of weeks. Following on from another successful disco night on 12th February, they held a fund raising venture for the school in Dan's Bar last Saturday Night.

We very much appreciate all the work they do. Last year their fundraising helped pay for the installation of the Sensory room which has been a great asset to many of our pupils. This year their funding is going towards the purchase of outdoor play equipment which will be installed in the grounds of the nursery at a cost of over £6,000. This facility will be used not just by our nursery children but also by our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils. The next big event on the horizon will be the Easter Disco and the big Bingo Night in April. Details will be texted to all later in the month. If you have a spare couple of hours, please come along and support the event as every penny raised goes directly back to the school for the benefit of all our pupils.

Peace Proms

Anyone who was at the SSE Arena last Sunday night who will never forget the most amazing show which our school was proudly participating. Over a period of five months, the P6/7 choir have been rehearsing songs and movements for tunes such A million Dreams, A Whole New World, Radio Gaga and more. If you want to see how magnificent this was, log into our Friends of St. Clare's Facebook page.

Transfer Meeting

There will be an information meeting in the school next Tuesday 10th March at 2.15pm for P6 parents who wish their child to undertake the Transfer test in November 2020. This will be an opportunity to find out what is required in order to register, what is expected from the pupils and specific information about the test and the marking system itself. The meeting will last no more than 45 minutes and will be led by Mr O'Doherty who will also be available afterwards along with the teachers to answer any questions you might have.

Rights Respecting Schools

Our Rights Respecting School Council have had another meeting with the lead teachers in preparation for our Silver Ward Assessment in May. The Focus for the month of March is Article 29 which states that all pupils have the right to develop their talents and abilities. Please continue to talk to your child about these important articles.