



January 2025
Edition



IQM Centre of Excellence Award Winners 2024-27

Whole School Nurture Approach

As a school we have implemented a programme called Nurture in Five this year. All staff have received EA training in this approach and are keen to use it in classes.

'Group Theraplay ®' is great for enhancing self-esteem, regulating emotions and promoting joy and engagement in children. It is also beneficial for children who may be withdrawn or shy and may help build confidence. It can also assist with tactile or sensory issues.

Nurture in Five incorporates activities such as movement, massage, breathing practices and mindful relaxation.

The Nurture Staff, Mrs Corey and Miss Sheridan have incorporated these programmes within The Sunshine Room and are seeing children reap the benefits. Groups of children from P1-P7 have accessed the support within The Sunshine Room and are responding positively to the interactive sessions.

We continue to make good use of our sensory room for those pupils who need some additional regulation. We are very fortunate that these resources are available to us and are administered by such a qualified and dedicated staff.

If you think your child is in need of any of these therapies please contact either Mrs Corey or Mr O'Doherty.

P6 Transfer Meeting

There will be an initial information session for parents of pupils who intend to sit the Transfer test in November 2025 on Monday 3rd February from 1.30pm-2.00pm. This will introduce you to some of the expectations and offer you an insight to the practicalities of the test. This will take place in the school assembly hall with the present P6 teachers and led by Mr O'Doherty.

Sacramental Preparations and Liturgies

This is going to be a very busy period for our P3, P4 and P7 pupils as they prepare to receive their sacraments. Below is detailed all the relevant dates for your diary.

P3

The pupils from P3 have already begun their practicing for receiving the sacrament of First Confession. **The Enrolment Ceremony** for First Confession will take place in the school assembly hall on **Tuesday 28th January at 1.15pm**. **First Confession** will take place on **Tuesday 11th March at 11.00am in St Paul's Church**. Children will be allowed to go home after the ceremony with their parents.

P4

P4 pupils are to attend the Do this in Memory of Me masses on the following Sundays at 12 noon:

This Sunday 26th January

Sunday 23rd February

Sunday 23rd March

Sunday 20th April (Easter Sunday).

First Communion will take place on Sunday 11th May at 11.30am

P7

P7 pupils celebrated the Service of Light on Wednesday 22nd January. This followed a day long retreat held by the youth ministry from Clonard. It was also a very special occasion as for the first time, our P7 children took part in a ceremony at Clonard Monastery itself.

Confirmation will be celebrated on **Thursday 6th February in St Paul's Church beginning at 11.00am sharp**. This is a day which the children will remain with their families so it is vitally important that all children are in their seats no later than 10.40am. More information will be given to parents next week.

After School Provision

Breakfast Club

We are very proud of the amount of additional provision we make in the school outside of class contact time. Throughout each week there are a range of opportunities for every pupil in the school to access extra activities. Each morning the kitchens prepare delicious breakfasts which are substantial. There is always fresh juice, cereal and toast. In addition to this there are always hot snacks available each morning as follows:

Monday- Boiled Eggs

Tuesday- Beans

Wednesday- Bacon

Thursday- Sausages

Friday- Hot pancakes.

As well as this, children get to play games and socialize in an informal environment. It's a wonderful way to begin the day with a hearty meal, good friends and allows our parents to get to work early and save them from having to make breakfast amongst the many other things they do to enable to get their children out to school in the morning. And this is all for the price of **£1.50 per day** and is open to all pupils from **Nursery- P7**.

123 CLUB

At 2 o'clock each afternoon, children from Nursery to P3 can avail of the 123 Club. This facility is for those pupils who have an elder sibling in the school in P4-P7 who finish at 3.00pm. This allows parents to do one pick up in the afternoon as opposed to two. Again the pupils are entertained with games, exercise and songs by our trained staff. The cost is again kept to a minimum of £1.50 per day Tuesday- Friday as the school closes for all pupils at 2.00pm every Monday.

After School Sports

We have some very gifted sports stars on our staff and they make use of their expertise after school each week to train our pupils in various sports and skills. At present our programme is as follows:

Monday- Soccer P6/7 Boys

Tuesday- Hurling /Camogie P5-P7

Wednesday- Girls' Soccer IFA P3 (2.00pm- 3.00pm),
P5-P7 IFA Soccer Coaching Girls (3.00pm- 4.00pm)

Thursday- Girls and Boys' Gaelic Football P5-P7

School Disco

Our School Disco will be taking place on Monday 3rd February (See Poster for more details).

Transition for P1 and Year 8

This is the time of the year when the enrolment for admissions is open online. Our Nursery places fill up very quickly and we can only take a maximum of 52 pupils. The portal opened on 10th January and will **close at 12 noon on Friday 24th January**. Any application made after this time will be considered a late submission and will fall outside of the normal criteria selection process. Parents should log in to

<https://connect.eani.org.uk/parent>.

Use your log in details as before or follow the instructions. Mr O'Doherty is always available for assistance.

The admissions Portal will open for year 8 admissions (Post Primary School) on 28th January and will close at 12 noon on 20th February.

You will require an email address to be able to register on EA Connect to submit an application.

If your child **has** a formal Statement of Special Educational Needs, there is a separate placements process where the post primary school placement is discussed with you as part of the review of your child's statement, therefore an application should not be made via Admissions on EA Connect.

Car Parking

Each morning and afternoon cars are blocking the gates of the school. This cannot be allowed even if doing a quick pick up, as this is access for ambulances in an emergency. Please ensure that both the Nursery and Primary Schools entrances are kept clear at Reece Hackett, one of our classroom assistants and former pupil has achieved his Foundation Grassroots Introduction all times.

IFA Award

to soccer coaching from the IFA. What an achievement. He can now continue his studies as he moves through the various levels of coaching awards. We are very proud of him and thank Mrs Brennan for being his mentor throughout his study.

Grandparents Day

Grandparents day which was cancelled due to the closure of the school will take place next Friday 31st January at 9.30am in the hall. All are welcome.



Any P7 Parent is needs assistance with registering for the Transition to Year 8, Mr O'D will be calling them in the next few days to arrange a time to complete the paper work.