



November 2024



A Focus on our Specialist Provisions Within St Clare's PS

Nurture Provision (Sunshine Room)

Since 2013, the school has been fortunate enough to be funded by the Department of Education to allow for a bespoke Nurture provision. St Clare's PS was one of the first schools to be awarded this training and eleven years later it is still having a huge impact into the lives of the children who attend this small group setting.

In Nurture Groups, there is a special emphasis on language development and communication. As well providing academic teaching, the group is designed to help children develop vital social skills, to develop confidence and self respect.

In the Sunshine Room, Mrs Corey has been there from day one. Mrs Corey is a specially trained teacher for this area and in her years has also amassed a number of accreditations especially within play therapy which is used for many more of our pupils. For many of the previous years, Mrs Lynch acted as the assistant. This year we have welcomed Miss Sheridan as the CA specialist for Nurture.

Of course, the pupils benefit from this expert tuition for one year until they reintegrate into the main body of the school. However, even during their year in the Sunshine Room, there is a positive link with the classrooms the pupils come from and this integration with the base class is a very important part of the process.

There is probably not a happier room in the school than the Sunshine room. A great place to learn and play.

Specialist Provision in Mainstream

SPiM Class (Infinity Room)

During the summer of 2023 the school had a major building project carried out in order to facilitate the creation of a specialist unit in the school to welcome pupils who have challenges around social and communication issues.

Our specially trained staff welcomed our first pupils to the school in September 2023. Our pupils come from across the city. There are huge demands on the staff and it only works thanks to the outstanding leadership of the teacher in charge Ms Lees and her assistants Ms Saoirse Ginley, Ms LJ Wilkinson and Mrs Theresa Miller.

The secret to the success of the Infinity Room is the ongoing communication with the parents. This is at the centre of the work moving forward to allow us to work in a partnership with parents. It is great to see our pupils in infinity attend classes in music with the rest of our pupils. We hope our pupils continue to thrive in our specialist setting.

P7 Service of Commitment

A huge thank you to all the parents of our P7 Confirmandi for their participation in the Service of Commitment which took place in the assembly Hall on Tuesday 19th November. This lovely ceremony is a preparatory event for the children receiving their Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday 6th February 2025. Of course, none of this is possible without the assistance of Fr Darren and our own Head of RE Mrs Bell.



For your Calendar

School will close for the Christmas Holidays on Friday 20th December at 11.00am. Classes resume again at the normal time on 6th January 2025

Open Day for the Nursery Unit will be Friday 6th December 9.30-1.30pm. The Primary School Open Day is Friday 29th November at 9.15am.

Important Dates for the Diary

The dates which parents should take note of for the coming weeks are as follows:

Nursery Open Day 9.30-1.30 Friday 6th December 2024

Primary Open day 9.15 Friday 29th November 2024

P7 Retreat and Service of Light Thursday 23rd January in St Paul's Church

St Clare's Choir will participate in the Clonard Carol Service on Sunday Evening 8th December 2024 and with Margaret Keys in Our Lady Queen of Peace Church on Sunday 15th December 2024.

Christmas Confessions will take place for P4-P7 pupils in the school assembly hall from 9.15am

Nursery-P7 Christmas Dinner in the canteen Thursday 5th December 2024 which also coincides with Christmas Jumper Day

P1-P2 Nativity in School Assembly Hall 9.45am Tuesday 17th December, all parents are welcome to attend.

P3-P4 Christmas Presentation 'Christmas around the World' in school assembly hall at 1.15pm, all parents are encouraged to attend.

End of term Christmas disco will take place in the school assembly hall on Thursday 19th December. Nursery-P3 pupils from 6.00pm-7.00pm and P4-P7 pupils 7.15pm-8.15pm.

School Finishes for Christmas Holidays at 11.00am on Friday 20th December

Christmas Vigil Mass for all children in the Parish takes place in St Paul's Church 6.00pm Tuesday 24th December (Rehearsal for choir 4.00pm Thursday 19th December in St Paul's Church. All pupils P4-P7 are welcome to come along).

After School Pick Ups

significant number of pupils are picked up late at the end of the day, many pupils waiting for over 30 mins, especially on a Monday. Parents should be reminded that every Monday all pupils finish school at 2.00pm. This allows for staff training so teachers can-not be waiting for pupils to be collected.

After School Activities

We try to provide a varied set of after school activities each week in St Clare's PS. This year is no different and we are delighted to see the numbers participating increasing week by week. Have a look at the list of activities

123 Club is available Tuesday-Friday at 2.00pm each week for P1-P3 pupils who have elder siblings in the school who do-not finish until 3.00pm

Monday at 2.00pm we have indoor and outdoor soccer practice for the older children.

Tuesday at 3.00pm we have gaelic football for boys and girls

Thursday at 3.00pm we have camogie and Hurling.

Don't forget we have breakfast club each morning Monday-Friday from 8.10am. For £1.50 children from Nursery to P7 can enjoy cereal, juice, fruit and a hotplate varying each day from beans on toast to succulent sausages and bacon. It's a great way to begin the day.

Attendance Matters

As explained in the last edition of the Newsletter, there will be a special prize for the class with the best monthly attendance record. We can announce that the winning class for November is Mrs Fox P6A class with an impressive monthly total of 95.1% attendance. P6A will receive the special attendance cup and will earn themselves a special treat. A homework pass has also been thrown in for good luck for everyone in the class. Don't forget the best individual attenders will receive certificates at Christmas and in June the top attenders will receive a special treat by going to the movies, popcorn will also be provided!!! Please make sure that your child attends school every day as everyday matters

School Attendance Matters



St. Clare's Nursery Unit

OPEN DAY

Friday
6th December
9.30-1.30

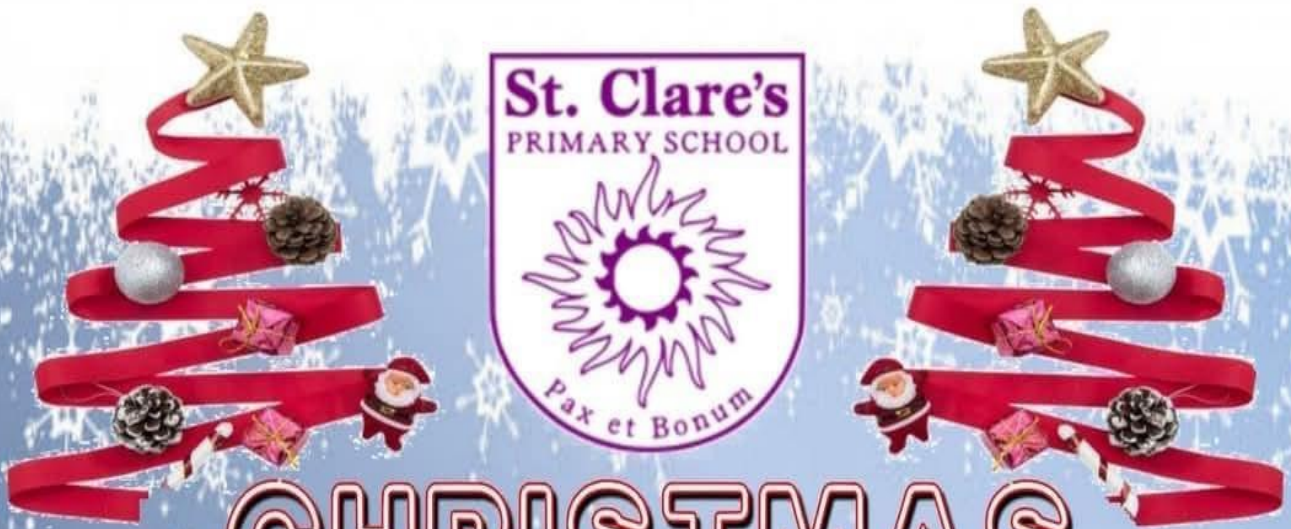
Come and play
Meet our Staff
We can't wait to see you!

Head of Nursery Ms C Shaw

st.claresnursery@yahoo.co.uk

02890326010

Contact us for further information



CHRISTMAS DISCO



Thursday 19th December

Nursery
P1, P2, P3,
6pm - 7pm

P4, P5
P6, P7
7.15 - 8.15



**Spot Prizes, Ballots,
Tuck Shop Available Adm £2**

323 Cupar Street Belfast