

OUR LADY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Our Lady's P.S.



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Congratulations Well done to the boys' Gaelic football team who won the junior section of the St. Patrick's Grammar School blitz on Friday 29th September. The boys showed great athleticism, skill and enjoyment, winning five of their six games. They beat Maghery, Ballyhagan and CBS Armagh, in a pulsating final, by one point. Pictured with Conor Mc Kenna (Australian Rules footballer) are: (back row) Joshua, Joshua M, Conor, Ronan, Jack, Shea and Kealon. Front row: Aaron, James, Dylan, Ryan, Eiméid, Charlie, Ralf and CJ.



SCHOOL CLOSURES Halloween Break: Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November (inclusive). Children return to school on Monday 6th November.

BOOKFAIR We have a Scholastic Book fair visiting the school from 28th Sept to 5th October. It will be open for viewing in the foyer from 9am until 3pm each day. The school will receive commission on all items sold; this allows the school to upgrade our class libraries and novels.

DINNER MONEY Dinner money for the month of October is £52.00 for those who wish to pay monthly. October Dinner Menu is attached to this letter.

OCTOBER SNACK October snack money now due - £5.00 per pupil.

PARENTS MEETINGS Curriculum Meeting for P1 parents on Thursday 5th October at 7pm.
Parent Teacher meetings on week beginning 23rd October.

AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES: **Literacy/Numeracy & Assessment class** – P 7 (Tues & Thurs – 3-4.15 pm).
Fiddle Class – Tues – Beginners and Wed - Advanced (3-4 pm).
DRAMA – P 2 - 2-3pm and P4 & 5 - 3-4 pm – Monday.
ZUMBA – P 3 – 2-3pm – Tuesday.
FOOTBALL - P6 & 7 – 3-4 pm - Friday.

Primary 5-7 children also have French lessons every Thursday (11 am - 12.30 pm) and Aileen Magennis, County Armagh GAA Coach takes the Primary 6 children for Gaelic football every Monday (11.15 – 12pm). Primary Seven are also doing Gaelic football as part of their PE programme.

SAFEGUARDING Our Safeguarding/Pastoral Care leaflet, Internet Safety and Acceptable Use flyer and permission slips are attached to this newsletter. Please read the attached documents and sign the relevant permission slips and return them to the class teacher or school office. If you have any queries, please contact the school and ask to speak to Mrs Comiskey or Mr Mc Kee.

CONTACT DETAILS It is essential we have your correct mobile number for parent text messages or if we have to contact you in the event of an emergency.

Lunches We have a number of children who suffer from severe food allergies. It is vitally important that lunches do **NOT contain any products with nuts or traces of nuts, seeds, kiwi fruit or pears.** We appreciate your support as we attempt to ensure the health and well-being of all children.

Beginning of Year Mass & Curriculum Evening Thank you to everyone who attended our beginning of year Mass and Curriculum evening. Both events were well attended and we appreciate your support as we strive to work in partnership to ensure every child develops to their true potential.

Merit Awards We have introduced Merit awards as part of our Pastoral Care System. Each week we have a special assembly, on a Friday, where Merit awards are presented to children from each class. Children may receive the Merit award for good behaviour, manners, work, effort, friendship etc. We hope that every child will receive the Merit award over the course of the school year. Each child receives a certificate, pencil and badge. They will also be asked to perform specific jobs while they are Merit. We feel the Merit award enables us to reward children for good behaviour and promotes positive behaviour in our school. We hope that you will acknowledge and praise your child for their efforts if they receive the Merit award.

School/Eco Council We will be holding our School/Eco elections in school this week. Children from Primary 4-7 will be given the opportunity to stand for election. Boys and girls will be selected from each class and play an important role in our school. They already have £160 to spend on play equipment from our Jersey day and will have to organise our Halloween disco!!!

Sports Celebration There is a special celebration for all sporting organisations and schools in St. Patrick's Cathedral on **Sunday 8th October @ 5.30 pm**. Children and families are asked to attend and to wear our school colours. **Reminder;** The children's Liturgy is on Sunday at 10 am Mass in Tullysaran and the 'Do This in Memory of Me' programme, for P4, begins on **Saturday 7th October @ 7pm** in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Pre/After school questionnaire Thank you to everyone who responded to our questionnaire. We had 63 responses. 30 families suggested that they would use a breakfast club and 33 families answered yes to using a 2-3 pm club, although responses did indicate that they may not use these clubs every day. I will inform you of our future arrangements in the next couple of weeks.

FUNDRAISERS

Action Cancer Coffee Morning

We held a Coffee Morning in school after our beginning of year Mass on Thursday 28th Sept and raised £227.00 for Action Cancer. Thank you for all your support.

Brown Money Collection

Throughout the year we hold a box in the office to collect brown money which we forward to the Missions. Please send all contributions into the office. In the School Year 2016/17 we collected brown money totalling £80.00. This was sent to support Columbian mission's projects in the Philippines.

Jersey Day

We held Jersey day on Friday 15th September to raise funds for our play equipment and raised £160. Thank you for all your support.

Yours sincerely

Mr Tomás McKee
Principal