



# February

2019

## IMPORTANT DATES

Tue	Feb 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Online Safety Week
Thur	Feb 7 <sup>th</sup>	P7 Service of Light and Commitment at 5pm in St Therese Church
Mon –Fri	Feb 18 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mid-term break ( <u>School Closed</u> )
Tue	Feb 26 <sup>th</sup>	Online Safety Session for Parents in school at 9am
Tue	Feb 26 <sup>th</sup>	Book Fair in school all week
Mon	March 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sacrament of Confirmation, Holy Family Church, 11am ( <u>School Closed</u> )
Fri	March 8 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day Celebrations
Thur	March 14 <sup>th</sup>	St Patrick's Day Concert 10am and 1pm
Mon	March 18 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday ( <u>School closed</u> )
Wed-Fri	March 20-22 <sup>nd</sup>	P7 Residential Trip to the Share Centre
Tue	March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Talking About Tough Issues –Session 1
Wed	March 27 <sup>th</sup>	P3 Sacrament of First Confession 1pm in St Therese Church
Thurs	April 18 <sup>th</sup>	The Passion Play performed by P6
Thurs	April 18 <sup>th</sup>	School closing at noon for the Easter Holidays
Mon	April 29 <sup>th</sup>	School reopening for Term 3
Sat	May 11 <sup>th</sup>	P4 First Holy Communion in St Therese of Lisieux Church at 10am

## AVIVA COMMUNITY GRANT

We have just found out that we have been awarded an Aviva Community Grant of £5000 to create a sensory room. Thanks to everyone who voted for us!!

## GRANDPARENTS' DAY

The children welcomed their much loved grandparents into the school for Grandparents' Day. The day provided a lovely opportunity for the children to celebrate the role their grandparents play in their lives and to show how much they are appreciated. We have been simply overwhelmed by the kind words and good wishes expressed by our grandparents during their visit. We hope that their gift from the children will be a treasured reminder of how much they are cherished. We pray for every blessing for our grandparents, now and always. A huge thank you to the staff for all their work in organising this lovely day.

## RAINY/ICY MORNINGS

Please note that the children can come straight into school on rainy mornings at 8.45am and their teachers will be waiting for them in their classrooms. **If the playground is icy, a path from the gate at the ramp will be cleared and marked with cones.** Children in the Lisieux Building (P3s and P7JMcF) will enter through the main school first, via the door at the P2 corridor. The gate near Miss Dorman's classroom will be locked during icy conditions and everyone coming in the front gates will use the main reception door to come into school. Please use the footpaths which will have been cleared.

## ONLINE SAFETY WEEK

During internet safety week we will be raising awareness with all of the children about the importance of staying safe online, through stories, discussions, games, assemblies and competitions. Mr Reynolds and our Child Protection Governor Ms M McTaggart will be hosting a Parents Online Safety Talk in school on Tue Feb 26<sup>th</sup> at 9am to raise awareness of some of the online dangers our children may face and how to manage these issues.

## CONFIRMATION

Confirmation of P7 pupils will be held this year on **Monday March 4<sup>th</sup> at 11am** in Holy Family Church. **The school will be closed for pupils.**

## TALKING ABOUT TOUGH ISSUES

Talking About Tough Issues (TATI), is an opportunity for parents of P7 pupils to come together to talk through some of the issues your children will face in their teenage years. Young people are faced with a lot more pressure, opportunities and risk in today's world. These workshops will provide information on drugs, alcohol, social media, peer pressure, adolescent trends and behaviours, mental health, well-being and relationships. Sessions are enjoyable, practical, relaxed and supportive, and will help you to prepare for some of the tricky conversations you may need to have in the near future. TATI was initiated by the Down and Connor Diocese, is funded by the Public Health Agency and will be delivered by Lisburn YMCA. The sessions take place in school on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2nd, 9th and 16th April from 9.00-11.15am. **Pathways Activity Centre will provide fun games and activities for children whose parents attend, at the last session.**

## HURLING BLITZ

The new year brought an afternoon of hurling in De La Salle for our KS2 boys. A slightly warmer venue than the boys are used to and it provided an afternoon of fast and intense hurling and an opportunity to focus on their ground hurling skills.

## ST MALACHY'S CUP

The P7 boys took part recently in the Rainbow Communications 5-a-side qualifiers at the Shankill Leisure Centre. In a very competitive group that included Carr's Glen PS, St Clare's PS, Lowwood PS and Stranmillis PS, the boys emerged top of their group after the round robin stage. In a tense final against their upcoming opponents in the P7 Cup, the game was settled by penalty kicks, with St Therese winning 3-1. They now progress to the overall finals in February. Well done boys.

## CHINESE NEW YEAR

To celebrate Chinese New Year our Mandarin tutor Miss Chen organised a fantastic Chinese themed morning on Monday 21st January. The children were able to listen to traditional Chinese music and take part in workshops, including writing their names in Chinese and dressing up in traditional Chinese clothing.



## OVERVIEW OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

A big thank you to all the parents who attended the '[Overview of Child Development](#)' – RISE NI Parent Workshop. It was great to get such a large turn out! The presentation can be found on the school website by hovering over the 'Parents' tab and then clicking on 'Parent Information'.

<http://stthereseoflisieux.co.uk/parents/parent-information/>

## SPRING CLEAN WITH CASH FOR CLOBBER

Recycle your unwanted clothing. Cash for Clobber is a nationwide scheme to educate and encourage re-wear, while raising funds for our school. This brilliant recycling scheme will be taking place in our school from the 4<sup>th</sup> February to 15<sup>th</sup> February. Cash for Clobber (CFC) helps raise awareness with our children about the importance of recycling and waste prevention. If you have any unwanted clothing, shoes, hats and belts, please bring them into school and we can recycle them with Cash for Clobber. Money raised will go towards helping us buy resources for our school garden and play ground, helping us to become more Biodiversity friendly.

**Remember to recycle your old batteries in school.**

## NEWINGTON CREDIT UNION

In the Canteen every Thursday at 9am for adults and children.

## BELFAST BUS DRIVERS APPEAL

A huge thank you to the Belfast Bus Drivers Appeal who purchased a lovely new sports kit for us (25 sets of jerseys, shorts and socks). As you can see it is very smart! Our previous kit which has had great use over the years has not been retired- but it is great to have two sets as we have had to borrow kit in the past when two competitions clashed.



## SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Please check that all items of uniform and coats, hats, etc. are clearly labelled with your child's name so that they can be quickly returned to the rightful owner if they are lost/found.

## SCHOOL BOOK FAIR

Our annual book fair has been organised to run from Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March and will give your child an opportunity to discover a range of exciting books and continue our school tradition of promoting a love of reading. Parents are invited to attend our fair, details to follow.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

We will celebrate World Book Day on Friday March 8<sup>th</sup>. All of the children will be taking part in activities to celebrate their love of reading on this day. To mark the occasion, we also ask everyone to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. There will be prizes for the most creative and inventive costumes.

## ST PATRICK'S DAY CONCERT (P2, P4 and P5)

Due to the huge numbers attending previous concerts we are going to have two concerts this year on Thur March 14<sup>th</sup>, one at 10am and the other at 1pm. P2, 4 and 5 will perform at both, so parents are most welcome to attend whichever suits best.

## RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL (RRS)

Last year we received the Bronze award on our journey to becoming a RRS. We are now working towards the Silver Award. February is 'Rights Awareness' month. Each class will display the **54** Rights of the UNCRC and begin to explore them. Every month thereafter, we will promote a different right and along with the *Rights Respecting Steering group* we will endeavour to make our school a more Rights Respecting place to grow and learn! For more information on the UNCRC or award please read: <https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/the-rrsa/about-the-rrsa/>

## DAIRY COUNCIL

The Primary Fives had an informative and action packed workshop delivered by the Dairy Council. They learned about the major food groups and focussed on the importance of 'everything in moderation'. Throughout the session they learned a food rap and participated in fun fitness activities to highlight the importance of keeping active and healthy.