



March

2018

IMPORTANT DATES

Fri	March 2 nd	World Book Day Celebration
Thur	March 15 th	St Patrick's Day Concert performed by P2, P4 and P5 pupils 10am/1pm
Mon	March 19 th	Holiday –school closed
Mon -Wed	March 26 th – 28 th	P7 Trip to the Share Centre
Thur	March 29 th	The Passion Play performed by P6. 9.30am
Thurs	March 29 th	School closing at 12 noon for the Easter holidays. No dinners served.
Mon	April 9 th	School reopens for Term 3
Mon	May 7 th	School closed.
Fri-Mon	May 25 th -28 th	School closed
Sat	June 2 nd	P4 First Holy Communion in St Therese of Lisieux Church at 10am

ASSEMBLIES

P4 Mrs McDaniel – Fri March 2nd at 9.30am

P3 Mrs Hamill – Fri March 9th at 9.30am

P6 year group- Thur March 29th at 9.30am

P2 Mrs McClurg-Fri April 20th at 9.30am

Parents are very welcome to attend.

MANAGING SCREEN TIME FOR CHILDREN

We had a very informative and interesting talk from Elisabeth Öhlböck, Clinical Specialist Occupational Therapist in Feb in the school hall. Elizabeth discussed the impact of too much screen time on children's learning, behaviour, sleep patterns, mental health and physical development. She recommends that preschool children have screen time access of around one hour per day and older children around two hours per day. She discussed lots of practical strategies to reduce the amount of time children of different ages spend on various screens. Her presentation with links to the research her talk was based on is on our website.

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the P7 boys and girls who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Feb 26th. Their behaviour, prayerfulness and reverence throughout the long ceremony was excellent and the school has received many compliments on their wonderful singing and music. Thanks to everyone who sent in donations of biscuits and cakes for the tea after the ceremony and to the PTA who organised and served the refreshments.

EXTENDED SCHOOLS

All after school clubs will finish on Friday March 23rd, except Breakfast Club and 123 Club which run until the end of term.

RAINY AND ICY MORNINGS

Please note that the children can come straight into school on rainy/icy 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 (P5s and P6NR) will enter through the main school first, via the door at the P2 corridor. The low 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.**

If the school has to close because of the weather, you will receive a text message as soon as the decision is made. We will also send out a tweet with this information and notify the BBC. However, we do aim to keep the school open if at all possible.

TROCAIRE

The theme for the Trocaire Lenten Campaign 2018 is '*Until Love Conquers Fear*' and the children will be exploring a range of activities in class to help them develop a better understanding of inequality and poverty in our world today. Each class will carry out some fundraising activities to raise vital funds to help with the work of Trocaire.

FIRST CONFESSION

Our P3s made their first confession yesterday in school. Despite the last minute change in venue due to the weather, they were brilliant and a credit to their families and teachers.

PTA MOVIE NIGHT

The next PTA Movie Night is on March 22nd at 5pm for the younger children and 6.45pm for the older children.

COMPETITION WINNER

Belfast City Marathon 2018 Certificate Design Competition
Huge congratulations to Ruairi Day in P5, runner-up in the Belfast City Marathon 2018 Certificate Design Competition. Ruairi's fantastic and creative entry won a trip to Tayto Castle for his whole class!!! On Tuesday 27th February he was presented with this amazing prize by a surprise visitor, Mr Tayto himself. A magnificent achievement, well done Ruairi!



NORTH BELFAST INDOOR HURLING CHAMPIONS

The P6/7 boys' hurling team participated in the North Belfast Indoor Hurling Blitz at UUJ and provided the crowd with an afternoon of exciting hurling. The boys were victorious in all 5 rounds, awarding them a well-deserved place in the final of the North Belfast Indoor Cup against Gaelscoil Eanna. They faced a hard challenge but their strength, speed and skill had them strong leaders for the whole of the game. A fantastic victory and achievement for these group of boys who were true ambassadors for St Therese of Lisieux P.S.!!! Congratulations!!!



TWITTER

Follow us on Twitter to hear the latest news and see some of the children's activities - <https://twitter.com/TheresePS>. Send a request to follow us and let Mr Reynolds know so that he can accept you.

SAFER INTERNET DAY 2018

As part of the UK Safer Internet Day 2018, the children engaged with this year's theme of 'Create, Connect and Share Respect'. They took part in a series of tasks, assemblies and workshops that emphasised the importance of having a 'Positive Digital Footprint' and how we 'Stay Safe Online'. The children in all Key Stages have been set a challenge to express their creativity in creating posters and videos to promote this year's theme. We were also very happy to host our parental workshop on 'Staying Safe Online'. Many thanks to the parents who attended and we hope to have more workshops in the future. Many thanks also to Mrs Marie McTaggart who assisted with the presentation this year. P4-P7 were also lucky enough to see a live performance of 'In The Net', a drama highlighting dangers online. This was funded by the Safeguarding Board, DE and HSCT.

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK

To celebrate National Science Week all classes will receive a visit from the Science Starz mobile lab during March or April. Science Starz is an exciting, new programme for nursery & primary schools aimed at enhancing achievement in the area of science.

All children will have the opportunity to wear a lab coat and to get fully involved in an experiment related to their current World Around Us topic. We know that the children will thoroughly enjoy participating in the hands on experiments and investigations and we look forward to the fun and exciting scientific experiences that they will gain.

SCHOOL BOOK FAIR

Thank you to everyone for supporting our recent school book fair. We use the commission from the book sales to top up our reading schemes.

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

Due to the huge numbers attending last year's concert we are going to have two performances this year on Thur March 15th, at 10am and 1pm. All P2, P4 and P5 children will perform during both shows. We will sell tickets in advance for these concerts to ensure the audience can enjoy the show in comfort. Further information will be sent out next week.

ATTENDANCE

It is very important that children attend school regularly so that they can benefit from the activities and learning experiences that their teachers plan for them. If your child is ill and cannot attend school please ring and let the office staff know in the morning and also send a note to the teacher on your child's return, so the absence can be recorded accurately. Attendance is monitored throughout the year by the Education Welfare Service.