



November

2017

IMPORTANT DATES

Thur	Nov 16 th	P4 First Holy Communion Enrolment 5pm in St Therese Church
Thur	Nov 30 th	Flu vaccinations offered to all children in school
Tue	Dec 5 th	Mr Hullaballoo P1-P4
Wed	Dec 6 th	P7 Pre sacramental meeting in school 5pm
Thur	Dec 7 th	P3 Christmas Show
Fri	Dec 8 th	Parent Teacher meetings – <u>school closed for pupils</u>
Mon	Dec 11 th	Senior Ensemble performing at Fortwilliam and Macrory ‘Carols for All’
Tue	Dec 12 th	P1 Christmas Show
Thur	Dec 14 th	Open day for prospective P1 pupils starting in Sept 2018
Thur	Dec 14 th	PTA Disco
Wed	Dec 20 th	KS2 Carol Service 1.30pm
Fri	Dec 22 nd	School closing at 12 noon for the Christmas Holidays.
Mon	Jan 8 th	School reopens for pupils
Sat	June 2 nd	P4 First Holy Communion in St Therese of Lisieux Church at 10am

ASSEMBLIES

P2 Mrs McWilliams – Fri Nov 17th

P5 Miss McElroy – Fri Dec 1st

Parents and family members warmly invited to attend.

Assemblies begin at 9.30am

P3 ENROLMENT CEREMONY

Well done to our P3 pupils who were so prayerful and reverent, and who sang so beautifully during their recent Enrolment Ceremony. The children are very welcome to attend the Children’s Liturgy at 10.30am Mass every Sunday at St Therese of Lisieux Church.

P7 TRANSFER

We wish all our boys and girls who are sitting the transfer tests every success. Our thoughts and prayers will be with them all during this time.

A big thank you to all the parents who supervise the P7 children during their afterschool preparation sessions on Wednesdays.

Please look out for information in the local press on the Post Primary Open Days which will be taking place over the next few months. We will send information home when we receive it.

We recommend that parents of P6 pupils also consider attending some of the Open Days this year, to ensure the children see a range of schools.

EXTENDED SCHOOLS PROVISION

A great variety of after school clubs are up and running. Thank you all for getting payment in to school so quickly. Please remember to dress appropriately for the weather for the outdoor activities. **Clubs will finish on Thursday Dec 7th.**

123 Club will continue until Thur Dec 21st and Breakfast Club will continue until Fri Dec 22nd.

Places are available in all the parent classes on Tuesdays. Just come along on the night.

Flower arranging- 7-8 pm.

Circuits - 6.30-7.30pm.

Adult art classes- 6.30-8pm.

UNIFORMS

Thank you all for ensuring the children wear the correct uniform to school every day. We have a few PE sweatshirts for sale at reception, if anyone needs a new one.

HEALTHY EATING

Our Healthy Eating and Healthy Break policies are available on the school website. Parents are reminded that NO fizzy drinks or nuts are permitted at any time and that healthy lunch boxes should not include crisps, sweets or chocolate bars. Information on Healthy Breaks and Lunches is available at

<http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Healthier%20Lunch%20Boxes.pdf>

ROAD SAFETY

We are delighted to see so many children already cycling and scooting safely to and from school. Please remember a few safety tips as we enter the winter months.

- Please wear bright clothing.
- Please ensure your bike/scooter is locked.
- Please wear a helmet when cycling/scooting.
- Please be aware of traffic.
- Please remember that school is a pedestrian zone, therefore nobody should be cycling or scooting in school grounds.

We will be arranging a number of cycling fun days and events throughout this year, and remember to look out for those vouchers that will be attached to your bike that will give you a night off homework!!

BEAT THE STREET

St Therese of Lisieux PS came 55th overall on the leader board, up from 65th last year. Well done to everyone who took part in the challenge to be more active. We travelled a total of 432 miles during the challenge.

PHOTOGRAPHER

Our P1 and P7 classes and their siblings had their photographs taken by Tempest Photographers in Oct. Any children who missed out will have the opportunity to have individual and family photos taken on Mon Dec 4th. Permission slips will be sent home in the next few weeks.

ROOTS OF EMPATHY PROGRAMME

The Primary 5 children have started their Roots of Empathy lessons. Roots of Empathy aims to foster the development of Empathy through the very unique method of using a real baby as the teacher! Baby Noah and baby Aoife have already made their first classroom visit to see the children. Over the course of the year the children will see first hand the natural development of the baby through monthly visits with the baby and classroom lessons in between. Evidence has shown that the programme enables children to gain insight into how others feel and develop a sense of social responsibility for each other. We look forward to seeing how baby Aoife and baby Noah grow and develop this year. A big thank you to Mrs Black and Ms Scannell for taking this lovely project on.

PARENT TEACHER MEETING

Parent Teacher meetings will take place on Friday Dec 8th. The school is closed for pupils that day. Teachers will send home dates and times for these meetings in the next few weeks. If the date/time does not suit you, please let the teacher know immediately so that a suitable alternative can be arranged.

PTA

The PTA would like to thank all the parents and staff who helped out at the Halloween Disco. The children looked fantastic and had a wonderful evening with their friends, as well as raising over £900 for the school.

The next PTA disco will be on Thur Dec 14th.

CAPES COUNSELLING

We are very lucky to have Lynne Dornan as our school counsellor. Lynne is a fully qualified and very experienced counsellor and has been with us now for a number of years.

Counselling can help children dealing with many issues including bereavement, separation, anxiety, worry, loneliness, anger and friendship issues.

Counselling takes place in a private room in school and sessions last about 30 minutes. Lynne always talks to parents before starting to work with the children.

If you feel your child might benefit from counselling, please speak to your child's teacher and they will give you a permission form to fill in. Lynne will contact you when a place becomes available.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Thank you to everyone who returned the FHC consultation slips. The overwhelming majority of parents indicated their wish to continue to use St Therese of Lisieux Church for this ceremony.

MUSIC MORNING

Miss McElroy's P5 class will be attending a Music Morning in Nov with the School of Music.

MORNING SUPERVISION

The playground is supervised from 8.45 am each morning. **Only children at the breakfast club should be in school before this time.**