



NOVEMBER

2016

IMPORTANT DATES

Thur	Nov 17 th	P3 First Confession Enrolment Ceremony in St Therese Church 5pm
Thur	Nov 24 th	P4 First Holy Communion Enrolment Ceremony in St Therese Church 5pm
Thur	Dec 1 st	P7 Pre- Sacramental meeting for P7 parents and children in school at 5pm
Wed	Dec 7 th	P1 Christmas Show 1pm
Thur	Dec 8 th	Parent -Teacher meetings. Children off school
Wed	Dec 14 th	P3 Christmas Show 1pm
Wed	Dec 21 st	KS2 Carol Service 1.30pm in St Therese of Lisieux Church
Thur	Dec 15 th	Open Day 10.00am for new P1 applicants
Wed	Dec 21 st	No school dinners served.
Thur	Dec 22 nd	School finishes 12 noon (no dinners)
Thur	Jan 5 th	Staff Development Day (school closed for children)
Fri	Jan 6 th	Staff Development Day (school closed for children)
	Mon Jan 9 th 2017	School reopens for pupils

ASSEMBLIES

Mrs Black's P2 class – 11th November
P4 Year Group – 18th November
Mrs McWilliams's P2 class – 25th November

Parents and family members warmly invited to attend. All assemblies begin at 9.30am

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Parent Teacher meetings will take place on Thurs Dec 8th. Teachers will send home dates and times for these meetings in the next few weeks.

P7 TRANSFER

The GL Test is on Saturday 19th November and the AQE tests are on 12th and 26th November and 3rd Dec. We wish all our boys and girls who are sitting these 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.

Some of our local post primary schools have invited our P7 pupils to their taster days to help them make their choice of post primary school. Please look out for information in the local press for dates for the Post Primary Open days which will be taking place over the next few months. We will send information home when we receive it.

JIGSAW 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.

As part of the package we have with Jigsaw, counselling is also available free to parents. If you would like to have counselling to help you deal with some difficulties in your life you can contact Jigsaw on 95438166.

Parent sessions are confidential and take place in Jigsaw's office on the Ballysillan Road. The school will not know if you avail of this service.

DEVELOPING FRIENDSHIP SKILLS

During the month of November we are going to focus on developing the children's friendship skills and their understanding of what constitutes bullying and effective ways to deal with it. This coincides with Anti-Bullying Week from 14th-18th November. Northern Ireland Anti-Bullying Forum's theme this year is 'Together We Are Stronger' and children will be involved in different activities throughout the month on this theme. P4 are going to present an anti-bullying assembly on Nov 18th.

MONEY

Thank you to everyone who has sent in fees for Spanish, Music and the various after schools clubs. It is a huge help to teachers when you send in the exact amount of money in an envelope, with all the details written on it.

We are required to keep accurate records of who has paid for the various activities and while we understand that parents may occasionally need to pay at the office it is a huge help if money can be given to class teachers so that they can record this correctly.

AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Afterschool activities will finish for the term on Fri Dec 2nd. Please remember if the club is held in the playground to dress appropriately for the weather.

123 club and Breakfast club will continue until Tue Dec 20th.

Boot Camp runs from Nov 15th until Dec 13th. Notes have been sent home already. Places are limited so first come first served! Knit and Chat and Flower Arranging will continue until Dec 13th also.

SOCCER

Primary 7 Cup

The boys took on Sacred Heart Boys in a local North Belfast derby at the Waterworks. Played on a surprisingly warm Friday afternoon, the game was played in a competitive and refreshing spirit with both teams giving their all. St Therese managed to take the early lead and with their committed team work and hard effort, they managed to secure their progress to the next round against Holy Cross Boys. Many thanks to our parents who came along and cheered the boys on.

LIBRARY VISITS

During this half term some of the classes will be visiting Chichester Library to learn about what is on offer there. We strongly recommend that all of the children are taken to the library regularly outside of the school day.

SPOOKY CYCLE

Huge congratulations to everyone who took part in this year's spooky cycle. Ms Scannell and Mrs Hamill found it very difficult to pick the winners, so well done to everyone who made such an effort. We were particularly delighted with our new Primary One children who made a huge effort decorating their scooters and bikes- I'm sure you will all agree they were spooktacular!



BEAT THE STREET

St Therese of Lisieux PS came 65th overall on the leader board. Well done to everyone who took part in the challenge to be more active. We travelled a total of 506 miles during the challenge. Interested in sharing your views on Beat the Street? Share your thoughts and you could win £50!

<http://bit.ly/2friPND> #beatthestreet

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.

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.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

Holy Family Parish Christmas Fair will take place on the afternoon of Sun Nov 27th. If you can help, please leave your name in the Parish Office. If you have items you wish to donate for the rickety wheel, tombola or bottle stall, please leave them in the Parish Office.

HOLY FAMILY CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children in P4-P7 are invited to join the Children's Choir in Holy Family Church. The choir meets at 9.30am on Sunday mornings to practise before singing at the 10am Mass. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to showcase their excellent musical talent as well as involving them in active participation in Sunday Mass.