



January

2025

IMPORTANT DATES

Mon	Jan 6 th
Wed	Jan 22 nd
Thur	Feb 6 th
Mon	Fri Feb 10 th -14 th (inclusive)
Mon	Mar 17 th
Thur	April 17 th
Mon	April 28 th
Mon	May 5 th
Sat	May 10 th
Mon-Tue	May 26 th -27 th (inclusive)

School reopening for Term 2
 Grandparents Day
 P7 Confirmation in Holy Family Church at 11am
 School closed for Spring Half Term
 School closed for St Patrick's Day holiday
 School closing at noon for the Easter holidays
 School reopening for Term 3
 School closed
 P4 First Holy Communion
 School closed

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS



Congratulations once again to all the children for their contribution to our Christmas celebrations. Their art, drama, singing and music were hugely appreciated by all who saw them. Huge thanks to the P2s for their spirited production of the Nursery Rhyme Nativity and the P3s for their energetic performance of A Special Kind of Present. Well done also to our school orchestra for opening the P2 and P3 shows and especially our P5s who had their first public performances at Christmas. Our Senior Ensemble's performances at NICVA's AGM, at Somerton Nursing Home and at our Open Day impressed all the attendees. We have had so much positive feedback from parents, grandparents and community members. The beautiful KS2 Carol Service held in St Therese Church just before we closed for the holidays was a reminder for everyone of the true message of Christmas.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Mon to Thur: 8.30am-4.15pm Fri: 8.30am- 3.15pm

X/TWITTER

Follow us on X (Twitter) to hear the latest news and see some of the children's activities - <https://x.com/TheresePS>

APPLICATIONS FOR P1 SEPT 2025

Applications for P1 must be made online from Jan 10th at noon, on EA Connect. The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Jan 24th. Any applications made after this will be considered as late. The child's long birth cert must be provided to the school, along with proof of residence (eg recent utility bill). More information is available on the EA website [here](#). Parents of prospective P1 children who missed our Open day in December are invited to visit on Thur Jan 9th at 3.30pm. Please phone to make an appointment.

PROMOTING PUNCTUALITY WEEK

Next week is Promoting Punctuality Week -6th -10th January. It is very important that children arrive on time in the mornings so that administration tasks can be carried out quickly and efficiently, to give the children time to settle in and to ensure they do not miss out on learning opportunities. We understand that there may well be genuine reasons for lateness but would encourage everyone to aim to be in school for 9am. During Promoting Punctuality Week every child who is in school punctually will be given a ticket for a ballot to win a Fireaway Pizza! There will be a winner selected in each class. Huge thanks to Fireaway Pizza for their generous donation of so many prizes. Gates are open from 8.45-9am. Breakfast Club is open from 8am.

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters

Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance

ILLNESS

Some of our pupils have compromised immune systems and coming into contact with infectious illness/conditions, especially chickenpox, mumps, stomach bugs etc. can have serious implications. Advice on returning to school after illness is available from the Public Health Agency [here](#).

PARKING

Parents, carers, grandparents and childminders are asked to park with care and consideration in the immediate vicinity of the school, being careful not to block gateways, drives and footpaths. Please be especially vigilant when reversing. Parking on yellow zig-zag lines is an endorsable penalty, which means three points on a licence and a £65 fine. Double parking on the Antrim Road and parking too close to junctions may also lead to fines.

SPORTING NEWS

The girls from P6 and P7 took part in a round robin series of games in December in the Cumann na mBunscol Indoor Ground Camogie League. Playing against St Peter's PS, St Ita's PS and St Teresa's PS, the girls demonstrated some great ground strokes and ferocious tackling against their opponents. In a tight group which came down to goal difference, the girls just missed out on qualification for the finals day. Lots of smiles and a great sense of enthusiasm for their upcoming games had the team returning to school in high spirits. Well done girls!



SCHOOL COUNCIL BALLOT

Well done to the School Council for their ballot ticket sales for the lovely Christmas Hamper donated by the McCready family. Additional prizes were donated by Lidl. The money raised will be used to buy resources for lunchtime.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL APPEAL

The local St Vincent de Paul conference send their thanks to everyone who contributed to their Christmas appeal. Just over £1300 was donated through the school. A tremendous total which will have supported many local families over the past few weeks.

CHRISTMAS BALLOTS

Thanks to everyone who supported our Christmas Ballot through donating prizes and/or buying lines. We hope the lucky winners have enjoyed their prizes donated by:-

- **St Therese of Lisieux PS Staff**
- **Lidl**
- **CT15**
- **The River Room, Belfast**
- **Fireaway Pizza**
- **Fortwilliam Opticians**
- **Carlin Hair**
- **MR Sports**
- **Deanby Ju-jitsu**
- **Geraldine McGuigan**
- **Tesco Antrim Road**
- **McDonalds Shore Road**
- **Pizzaworks, Fortwilliam**
- **W5**
- **Streamvale Open Farm**
- **Spar, Cavehill Road**
- **Cassidy's Bar**
- **Movie House**
- **Fortwilliam Greengrocers**
- **Reid's Florist, Fortwilliam**
- **The Four Winds Restaurant**
- **Madigans Court**
- **Chill**
- **Bluebell Bakery**

ADVICE NI

Independent advice on benefits, money, debt, tax credits, accessing additional support, and managing your bills is available from Advice NI on 0800 915 4604 or by email at advice@adviceni.net. See <https://www.adviceni.net/> for further information.

LOCAL POST PRIMARY OPEN DAYS

Post Primary Open Days/Evenings will be taking place this month. Parents of P6 pupils should strongly consider attending some Open Days this year in case they cannot attend them all next year.



DIGITAL SCHOOLS
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