



St. Joseph's Primary School
42 Castle Street
Lisburn
BT274XE

'Being the best that we can be'

Friday Note

15 March 2019

No.18

Remember: We are a nut free zone!

Looking back....

Reporting to Parents

It's been a busy week in school with parent consultations taking place all week. Thank you parents for coming along to support your child's learning. Thank you teachers as well for the preparation and delivery of almost 350 parent meetings across the week.

Attendance

Good attendance at school is vital. On a termly basis I must let parents know if their child's attendance is falling below 90%. On some occasions, when a child's attendance falls below 85%, I may need to refer that attendance pattern to the school's Educational Welfare Officer. The decision to refer to the EWO is never taken lightly and I would never refer a child's attendance without speaking to you as parents previously about my concerns. I understand pupils when pupils are sick or have ongoing health issues, however I have a statutory obligation to let parents know.

90% attendance sounds acceptable but if you look at the table below 90% attendance at the end of the year will mean that 3 weeks and 4 days of learning has been lost across the year.

100% attendance	0 days missed	0 learning lost
95% attendance	9 days missed	1 week and 4 days learning lost
90%	19 days missed	3 weeks and 4 days learning lost
85% attendance	28 days missed	5 weeks and 3 days learning lost
80% attendance	38 days missed	7 weeks and 3 days learning lost

You can follow this link to the Department of Education's very useful leaflet, Attendance Matters:

<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/de/attendance-matters-a-parents-guide.pdf>

Primary 6 Bun Sale

Well done to Mrs Gartland's primary 6 class who raised an amazing total of £282 for Trocaire with their Fair Trade Bun Sale. There are certainly some budding bake off stars in Primary 6! Well done to all! **PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ANY BUNS MADE OR BOUGHT FOR BUN SALES MUST NOT HAVE NUT PRODUCTS.**

Family Fund

Thank you to those of you who have donated to our family Fund so far this year. Our Family Fund is designed to help us buy school essentials like exercise books, text books etc. If you can, please donate £10 per term or £30 per family. We appreciate your donations. Thank you.

Looking ahead....

Charlie

We would like to thank everyone for their continued prayer for Charlie Craig (age 8). During this Lenten season the family would love people to say The Rosary for Charlie's continued physical (particularly his lungs and joints) and emotional healing. It would be great if as many as possible could join for The Rosary on Wednesday 20th March at 10.30am in St Patricks Chapel. All welcome. Charlie's family have no doubt that faith and prayer have got them through this testing time.



Shared Education

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Confirmation Day

Thursday 21 March is Confirmation Day. On this day, many of our Primary 7 pupils will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This is a very special day in our school and Parish community. Please pray for them in the days ahead.

Confirmation: Help Needed!

The parish urgently need help with the Confirmation tea on Thursday 21 March. If you can spare an hour or two between 12noon and 2pm next Thursday, let us know. We need help serving tea/coffee as well as cleaning up afterwards. Thank you to those of you who have already volunteered.

Dinner Menu: When we return to school after mid-term it will be Week 3 (W/B 18/03/19) of the menu. Follow this link for details:

[http://www.stjosephsschool.org/cmsfiles/items/downloads/doclett-20190108223415-9995/St%20Joseph's%20PS%20Lisburn%20Choice%20Menu%20Jan%202019%20\(002\)%20\(1\).pdf](http://www.stjosephsschool.org/cmsfiles/items/downloads/doclett-20190108223415-9995/St%20Joseph's%20PS%20Lisburn%20Choice%20Menu%20Jan%202019%20(002)%20(1).pdf)

Primary 6 Transfer meeting

We will hold a meeting for parents of pupils in Primary 6 on Monday 25 March 2019 at 6pm. This meeting will outline the transfer procedure as well as the Primary 7 year. Please come along to see how we will support you and your child through this process.

Key Dates

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| • Primary 7 Confirmation Day | Thursday 21 March at 11am | St. Patrick's Church |
| • Primary 3 First Confession | Thursday 28 March 10.45am | St Patrick's Church |
| • Primary 4 Breaking of Bread | Thursday 11 April 9.30am | Assembly hall |

What's happening next week?

Monday 18 March 2019	Tuesday 19 March 2019	Wednesday 20 March 2019	Thursday 21 March 2019	Friday 22 March 2019
School closed for St Patrick's day	Feats of St Joseph, our patron Saint Mrs Fleming at CCEA Training Mrs Hanna Literacy Pupil Voice 1pm – 3pm Boys Gaelic Football at Musgrave with Mr Reid	Primary 1 at Pottery in Lisburn Arts Centre P2 Shared Education Day with Harmony Hill Primary School Mrs McCambridge at EA Shared Education STEM Course	CONFIRMATION DAY: 11am in St Patrick's Chapel P2 Shared Education Day with Harmony Hill Primary School	P6 Mrs Gartland's parent Assembly at 9.30am in the school assembly hall Primary 4 at badminton P7 at swimming Mr Schumann: Animation Demonstration for P3 Miss Clarke's class

Have a lovely long weekend celebrating our patron saint, St Patrick.

Pauline



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