



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

'Being the best that we can be'

Friday Note

Friday 5th June 2020

No. 31

Message from Mr Murray

This will be my final Friday note to you as Principal.

From Friday 12th June Mr Barry McMahon will take over the reins of St. Joseph's Primary School and he will do so with vigour, enthusiasm and the support of the staff, Governors and parents alike. He, like I did in September, will know right away what a wonderful and unique place St. Joseph's Primary School is. Even though during these strange and unprecedented times children have not been at school, the special ethos that permeates throughout St. Joseph's will give Mr McMahon a sense of what he can expect when things hopefully return to some sort of normality.

I have really enjoyed my time at St. Joseph's, albeit, a shortened version of what I had planned to achieve. I will take with me many precious experiences of my daily interactions of the children, the pride and professionalism with which teachers and classroom assistants delivered a first class education to the children in their care and the unwavering support of Mr Eamonn Broderick and the rest of the Governing team.

I wish everyone associated with this school the very best as they continue on their journey of excellence.

P1 Induction Arrangements

Letters were sent home to parents on Wednesday 3rd June detailing who your child's class teacher for P1 will be in September 2020. Teaching staff and assistants cannot wait to meet you and show you your new classroom.

Our normal procedures for P1 Induction have been severely affected by Covid-19. Your child's wellbeing remains our key priority and a smooth transition to P1 is of paramount importance. With this in mind, we have a detailed '**Welcome and Information Pack**' to share with you and your child. This pack will include some important points for starting school in September and photographs of key staff members, to help familiarise your child before coming to school.

Details of when and how to collect your packs have been shared with you in the letters that were sent home. If you are unable to come to school on this day, please email Mrs McManus on cdelaney828@c2kni.net, who will make alternative arrangements. The P1 staffing team are also working on something very exciting, in which we hope to bring St Joseph's to life! Please keep an eye on your email inbox mid-June, when we will share this venture with you.

Reporting to Parents

Teachers have been busy compiling annual reports for each child. These will be posted to parents on Friday 12 June. With the current pandemic, there may be delays in your postal service. If you have not received your child's annual report by Monday 22 June, please email Mrs Fleming at pfleming930@c2kni.net to let her know.

Textbook Collection

As we approach the end of the academic year, we would like to collect all textbooks, library books etc in order to help us audit resources and prepare for the next academic year. We will let you know how we will be organising this in the next week or two but in the meantime, it would be helpful if you could gather up all school books, textbooks, reading books etc for returning. Thank you.

Reading Books/Library Books Amnesty

If you have any reading books/library books belonging to the school, please leave them back to school in the coming weeks. It is so important that we have all our books returned for our pupils next year. Thank you.



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Update on each Year group

P7

As a part of our topic 'Me, Myself and Moving on' the children have been researching and writing about someone who has had an influence on their life or someone who inspires them. We have some amazing work from Walt Disney to Stephen Hawkins. We will be uploading some of the work to the website. We have also been researching our family trees and reflecting on our memories of St. Joseph's. The children have submitted amazing work and the number of movies we are receiving is unbelievable. Mrs McCambridge and Mrs O'Hare are enjoying watching them. We are in contact with the children through Google Classroom and it's lovely to be able to send them messages about their work. What would we do without technology!

P6

The children in P6 are coming to the end of their much loved novels, Journey to the River Sea and Letters to the Lighthouse. Mrs Gartland and Mrs Fleming have loved reading all the Titanic diary entries as the children pose as a first, second or third class passenger. All the children are busy signing up to Google Classroom this week and are excited to use this platform in June in preparation for home and school learning in P7. It is great to see children taking a break from their lessons and trying out the athletics skills Mrs Gartland posted, as we all miss our much loved Sports Day.

P5

Primary Five have been really enjoying their new topic Egyptians and all of our World Around Us tasks. They had great fun this week with their Science experiment and their art task on making Canopic jars! Please remember to log into the Fronter room on a Friday where you will find tasks and discussions. When the children have completed their PowerPoint or leaflet, they can upload it and share with the rest of the class. The children continue to work hard on their maths topics of money and measure. They have been enjoying writing tasks related to their class novels and we have loved receiving photos of their work!

P4

What a class of Party planners we have in Primary 4. This week the children have organised their own celebrations, from the theme to the invitations, guest list, party games, food and even costings. The pupils have continued to visit and complete activities in our Fronter room on Celebrations. Ms Gorman has created another wonderful workshop on how to make a lighthouse with junk materials. A variety of Scavenger hunts have occurred where children have been busy finding different objects around the house. In Literacy we have been working on our comprehension skills and a variety of types of punctuation, including speech marks. We have also been reading some poetry and writing our own. In Numeracy the pupils continued to work on amounts of money and change. They have completed Number problems using Rucsac to help with solving them. We have had great success on levels achieved in Lexia and awards in Mathematics. We are so proud of all the children's contributions to their Home Learning and excited to see what they will produce next.

P3

It's been another super week of home learning in P3. The children have enjoyed learning about our new topic of 'Animals' and have been doing lots of tasks connected to the theme. Ms. Gorman made an art tutorial to show us how to make an animal from junk materials - we've received photos of some fantastic creations! In Literacy our story this week was a Twinkl eBook 'Don't Hog the Hedge'. The children were busy writing character studies and postcards home based on the book - great work! Our superstar mathematicians were in action again as they continued to learn about division practically. They also enjoyed our practical maths challenge this week on capacity. Keep up the fantastic work P3 - Miss Clarke and Mrs Gould are so proud of you!

P2

There is just no stopping the children in P2! This week, they continued to learn more about life at the seaside. They retold the story of The Lighthouse Keeper's lunch by summarising the main parts into sentences and then reading these aloud



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using See-Saw...we would like to say just how impressed we are by the improvement in writing - everyone is planning their sentences carefully, attempting tricky words and using the story as a guide. They also completed a lovely 'I spy at the Seaside' activity with some children even sending their own photos from a day at the seaside...we are so glad that you can get to visit all of these special places, once again! As a year group, we are continuing to learn about using money...adding amounts and recognising coins and practising counting in sets of 10. Well done everyone, another brilliant week's work...keep it up for a few more weeks, we know you can do it!

P1

This week P1 have continued to work with their usual enthusiasm and positivity! Their home learning overview was jam packed with learning focused on extending Literacy skills, Mental Maths challenges and investigation of the living world. Children continued to develop their reading skills and basic sentence composition, practically explored the number story of 9 and labelled the different parts of a plant. They had great fun outdoors looking for different types of plants and flowers! They also completed some interesting challenges as they explored the concept of 'time'...how many star jumps can you do in one minute? Don't forget boys and girls, Mrs McManus and Miss Hearty are so proud of you all and they just love to see your weekly updates on Seesaw. All that hard work does not go unnoticed. Keep working hard for the adults at home!

Creative Voices

We've come to the end of another brilliant week of home learning in Creative Voices this week. *Feelings Workbooks* have been finished after nine weeks. Well Done Children and the Adults that helped you as well. This will stand you on such good stead in later years. Being able to understand what you are feeling, have the vocabulary to express those emotions and the ability to control them is such an amazing gift. Lots of us grown up s still struggle with this. New Art and Design Videos were posted on the website so check them out if you need some boredom busters. Ms Gorman loved seeing the photos of your Eid celebrations and your other beautiful creations.

School Uniform

Just a reminder of our suppliers for our school uniform. Our school uniform is available from Mc Call's in Lisburn. Mc Call's have informed us that items are all available on their website: mccallsoflisburn.com They will be giving 20% discount on school uniform in June and July and their phone lines are open for any questions you may have regarding the uniform. Mc Call's are hoping to be re-opening the store very soon.

PE Uniform

Our PE uniform is available from O' Neill's in Kennedy Centre when normal shopping resumes. It consists of a polo shirt, half zip and track bottoms. Children in the infant end of the school may wear the polo shirt with navy blue bottoms along with their school jumper on PE days. The polo shirt can also be purchased from Mc Call's and the navy blue bottoms can be purchased from Tesco/Dunnes/Marks and Spencers etc.



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