



ST. JOSEPH'S NEWSLETTER

JAN/FEB 2025

St. Joseph's P.S., 1 Seafin Rd., Meigh, BT358LA [Tel:30848331](tel:30848331)
www.stjosephspsmeigh.org Email: info@stjo.meigh.ni.sch.uk



Dear school community,
Welcome to the latest addition of our school newsletter which aims to share a small flavour of what is happening in our busy school since the New Year has begun. Spring is in the air and it is lovely to see brighter mornings and a stretch in the evening.

J. Brennan

NSPCC Visit



Miceal from NSPCC recently visited our school and completed Workshops with our P3, P6 and P7 classes. The children loved meeting Buddy and completing their leaflets and art work.

Primary 3 Drumming

The Primary 3 class recently benefitted from a six week African Drumming Programme led by Austin and Jimmy from EA. The children took part in a Djimba Dawn Dance and across the six weeks learnt to play this tune which has great rhythm. The people of Senegal in Africa drum this to bring good energy to them and send away bad energy. Great fun was had by all!



World Book Day



World Book Day takes place this Thursday 6th March 2025, and we would like to invite you to join us in helping your child to make the most of this exciting occasion. Children are invited

to come to school on this day dressed in their House colour. This can be related to a book or character.

World Book Day celebrates the joy and value of books and reading, especially for children. Every child has received a £1 World Book Day Book Token which can be used to get £1 off any book costing £2.99 or more in our Book Fair which is currently in the school until Thursday afternoon.

Audiobooks are a brilliant way of enjoying stories, whether you're reading together with the family, or listening in your own time, find your next audiobook to tune into here.

https://www.worldbookday.com/world-of-stories/?dm_i=35S3,1D782,2AGIXF,5CTVD,1

For younger readers, check out [Share A Story Corner](#) for video books and activities to enjoy with your little one.

ST PATRICK'S DAY

Our St Patrick's Day Celebration Concert takes place on Thursday 13th

March 2025 beginning at

10.00am. Pupils are

encouraged to wear

something green to add to

the occasion and bring in a

£1 donation. P1-P7 pupils are all participating

and parents are warmly invited to come along

and join in the craic. Entrance is £2 per adult

seat and £1 per child seat. All proceeds will go

to our **Trocaire Lenten Appeal**. Please come

along as it promises to be an enjoyable morning.

School will be CLOSED on

Monday 17th March



Primary One Art Work

Primary 1 recently completed some amazing Valentine art work to show their families how much they loved them. Well done Primary 1!



P5 Visit Navan Centre

Primary 5 had a very enjoyable and informative day at the Navan Centre recently as part of their World Around Us Topic – The Egyptians. One of our poor pupils even managed to get themselves mummified!



Primary 2 Village Walk

You never know who you would meet out and about around the village. Our Primary 2 pupils had a wonderful morning finishing off their Houses and Homes topic with a dander through Meigh Village.



Caroline Retires

Caroline McGinnis recently retired from our school. She worked in our school for 28 years and we were all sorry to see her go. The Primary 7 class performed a fantastic assembly all about Caroline's time in our school. We wish her well in her retirement. Caroline on behalf of all our families was presented with a bouquet of flowers, money and a beautiful personalised word frame with special 'Caroline' words contributed by each child in our school. Thank you for all your kind words and donations.



Online Safety

All of the children participated in activities to mark Safer Internet Day in February. The theme this year was 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. Please talk to your children about what they learnt about this in assembly and in their classes reinforce how to keep themselves safe online.



Primary 4 completed posters to highlight the importance of online safety.



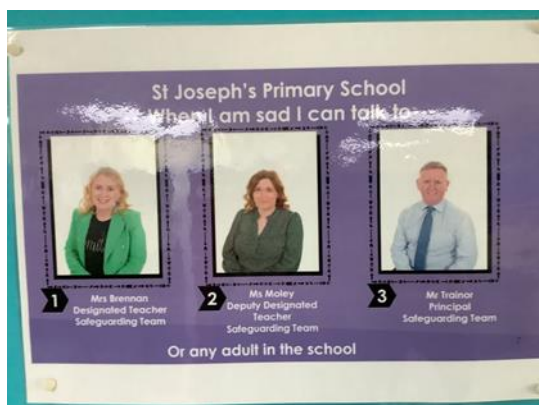
School Start Times

It is important that ALL children are in school and seated in class by 9.05am.

Dates for your Calendar

| | |
|---|--|
| 6 th March | Primary 4 First Confession @ 7pm |
| 13 rd March  | St Patrick's Day Concert 10am Wear Green £1 donation for Trocaire Lenten Appeal |
| 17 th March | School Closed |
| 10 th April | P7 Confirmation @ 2pm in Sacred Heart Church Cloughoge (Three Schools) |
| 17 th April | Easter Holidays CLOSE at 11.00 am No Breakfast Club, Dinners or After School Wraparound Care |
| 30 th April | Primary 5 Sing along with other schools in Newry Cathedral @ 11.30am |
| 5 th May | School Closed - Bank Holiday |
| 10 th May | P4 First Communion St. Joseph's Church Meigh @ 11am |
| 23 rd , 26 th & 27 th May | School Closed - Bank Holiday & Staff Days |
| 27 th June | School Closes for Summer Holidays @ 11am |

Child Safeguarding Team



Please be familiar with our Child Safeguarding Team:

Mrs Brennan – Designated Teacher for SG

Ms Moley – Deputy Designated Teacher for SG

Mr Trainor – Principal SG Team

Mrs B King – Chairperson Board of Governors

Mr D. Carbery – Designated Governor for SG

Our Full Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy is available on school website.

Carpark Reminder

We kindly ask that the pedestrian entrance to the school is used on all occasions on entry and exit to/from the school. This is to ensure the safety of everyone at all times. Please make this known to anyone who may be picking up a child.

P3 After Easter

Reminder that after Easter our Primary 3 class will now be staying in school until 3pm.



Newry Musical Feis

Newry Musical Feis runs this year from Sunday 30th March to Saturday 5th April 2025. Pupils from Primary 4 -7 will be involved in solo, group recorder and band sessions.

Newry Poetry Feis will run from 28th April to 2nd May for Primary 1 -Primary 7 entrants. Please continue to work with your child in preparation for these events.



Being Well Doing Well

We have recently started a new initiative called Being Well Doing Well (BWDW) which is to promote the well being of our staff and children. The Well Being Champion is Mrs Brennan, who will be coordinating this programme, which runs over 5 years. We sent home some information and a link to a parent survey. Thank you for your replies to our recent Being Well Doing Well Survey.

The Being Well Doing Well (BWDW) programme is part of The Children & Young People's Emotional Health & Wellbeing in Education Framework.

The programme aims to support schools (nursery, primary, post primary, special and EOTAS) to develop a Whole School Approach to Emotional Health and Wellbeing by resourcing them with:

- An Emotional Health & Wellbeing Framework to assist them to assess their current practice, identify needs and implement actions to develop the emotional health and wellbeing needs of everyone within the school;
- A package of support which includes a BWDW Toolkit, advice, resources and training to assist them to improve the holistic outcomes of the whole school by addressing their emotional health and wellbeing needs; and
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing outcomes which will reduce pupils barriers to learning and enhance their readiness to learn.

Fundraising for Southern Area Hospice

The Primary 1 Nativity and the whole school Christmas Choir Service had a door collection for Southern Area Hospice which amounted to £574.50. Thank you for all your donations.



Prayer for March Prayer For the Family

Lord, we thank you for our family
For the talents and good things that you
have given each of us
Please guide us, protect us and equip us
This day and every day.
As we grow together in Your love
Amen.



Swimming lessons

Primary 5, 6 and 7 have now completed their swimming lessons in Infinity Swimming pool in Camlough. Primary 4 will soon be commencing their lessons.

Credit Union Quiz

We recently took part in the Credit Union Quiz in Forkhill. We had 2 teams entered in this very tough competition. Well done to all involved.

Local Study for Primary 7

P7 were very lucky to get a visit from local historian Una Walsh who gave the pupils a great insight into local historical landmarks including Killeavy Old Church, Ballymacdermott Court Tomb and Killeavy Castle. We listened to so many interesting stories and look forward to welcoming Una back in March to look more closely at our local townlands and their significance.