

St. Mary's Primary School Cabragh

10 Whites Road, Cabragh, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, BT70 3AN

Telephone: (028) 8776 7356

Principal: Mrs Louise Quinn



19th April 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,
Please find below some information for your attention.

SCHOOL CLOSURE - WEDNESDAY 26TH APRIL 2023

As you may already be aware, most teaching unions in Northern Ireland have called for a second day of industrial strike action on Wednesday 26th April.

As all our teachers will be involved in this action and unavailable to work, the school will be closed for all pupils. We apologise for any inconvenience caused during this challenging time.

School Holidays

St. Mary's will be closed for the Easter holidays (5th April – 16th April inclusive).

St Mary's will close at 12 noon on Tuesday 4th April. School buses will be available for those children who travel home on the bus. Children should be collected at 12 noon sharp. School will re-open on Monday 17th April.

Bank Holiday -1st May 2023 (School Closed)

Staff Baker Day -Friday 5th May 2023 (School Closed)

Additional Bank Holiday- Monday 8th May 2023 (School Closed)

Bank Holiday- Monday 29th May 2023 (School Closed)

School Closure

The school will be used as a polling station in the upcoming May Election.

The school will be closed on **Thursday 18th May 2023**.

Ceremony of Light

The Ceremony of Light for Primary 7 will take place in the Church of the Assumption, Tullyallen at **11 am mass on Sunday 23rd April 2023**. Father Hannigan has asked that each family bring with them a blessed candle for part of the Ceremony of Light on Sunday 23rd April.

Confirmation- Primary 7

Confirmation will take place on **Thursday 11th May 2023** at 5.00 pm in Church of the Assumption, Tullyallen. **School will close at 12 NOON on Thursday 11th May 2023**

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First Holy Communion- Primary 4

First Holy Communion will take place on **Saturday 20th May 2023** at 11.00 am in Church of the Assumption, Tullyallen.

The "Friends of Cabragh", Parent Support Group, warmly invite all our P4 children and their families to a special celebration in the Community Centre after First Holy Communion, where refreshments will be served.

A photographer has been booked. The photographer will take a class photo in the chapel and then individual/family photos back in the Community Centre after the ceremony.

P1 & P2 Creative Music Showcase

As part of our extended schools cluster with St. Mary's PS Ballygawley, our Primary 1 and Primary 2 children have been involved in weekly creative music lessons with Mr. Donal Gormley. It is now time for the children to showcase their learning!

Primary One - On **Wednesday 17th May** our Primary One children will travel to St Mary's PS Ballygawley, by bus, to perform alongside the P1& 2 Ballygawley pupils. Parents from both schools are welcome to attend from 11:00 -11:30am. St Mary's PS Ballygawley extend an invitation to our Primary 1 parents to attend the **Creative Music Showcase in St Mary's Primary School, Ballygawley on Wednesday 17th May 11:00 -11:30am.**

Primary Two - Then in the **afternoon, on Wednesday 17th May**, it will be the turn of the P3 pupils in St Mary's PS Ballygawley to travel to Cabragh to perform with our P2 children. Parents from both schools are welcome to attend from 1:30 -2:00 pm. We extend an invitation to our **Primary 2 parents to attend the Creative Music Showcase in St Mary's Primary School Cabragh, between 1:30 - 2:00 pm on Wednesday 17th May.**

We wish all the children taking part every success and thank Mr. Gormley for his work with the children this year. They have really enjoyed it. The children should wear full school uniform for the performance. Thank you.

Swimming Lessons

Primary 4 will commence swimming on Friday 28th April 2023. The dates for swimming lessons for P4 in Term 2 are on

Friday April 21st, Friday April 28th Friday May 12th, Friday May 26th, Friday June 2nd.

Swimming lessons are compulsory and part of our Physical Education Curriculum. Children with long hair must wear a swimming cap. All children must wear goggles. The children should wear their PE uniform into school on swimming days.

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Boundaries and Transitions Programme – Primary 7

To help support our Primary 7 pupils as they prepare to transition to Post-Primary, we have booked REIM to deliver a Pupil Workshop 10:30-12:30 on **Tuesday 2nd May 2023** and in the afternoon a Pupil and **Parent Workshop 1:15- 2:45 on Tuesday 2nd May 2023.**

The 'Boundaries and Transitions' programme is aimed at children in their final year of primary education and their parents. The programme will provide a space where the experience of making the transition to second-level education can be explored. The workshops will provide both parents and pupils with the skills and knowledge to communicate effectively with each other throughout the transition period, focusing on both offline and online activity, at a time when children are exploring their independence.

The 'Boundaries and Transitions' programme promotes communication, resilience and positive mental health for young people who are transitioning to post primary education. The interactive workshop will help to prepare our P7 pupils for transitioning to Post Primary and give them the tools and skills to deal with any stress or anxiety that this may bring.

We invite our P7 parents to this very worthwhile **Pupil/Parent workshop on Tuesday 2nd May 2023 (1:15pm- 2:45pm)** in St Mary's Primary School. The workshop will help you to support your child as they transition to Post – Primary and will explore the changing dynamic in families as pre-teens gain independence and responsibility. We kindly request that you complete the reply slip and indicate if you will be joining your child for the Parent/Pupil Workshop.

SEAG- Information for P6 Parents

The assessment being used by all selective post primary schools in N Ireland is changing. Every one of the 62 schools that use academic selection within their admissions process will now use the outcomes from an assessment provided by the Schools' Entrance Assessment Group (SEAG).

If your child is transferring to post-primary education in 2024 and you would like your child to sit the SEAG Entrance Assessment in November 2023 then the following information may be helpful:

- You will need to register on the SEAG website
- Having registered you will be able to complete an online Pupil Application for your child to sit the Assessment.
- The Parent Registration and **Pupil Application period will run from 9am Wednesday 3 May 2023 until 5pm Friday 22 September 2023.**
- No Pupil Applications can be accepted after 5pm Friday 22 September 2023.
- The 2023 SEAG Entrance Assessment consists of two papers. The first will be held on Saturday 11 November and the second on Saturday 25 November.

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- Each paper has 28 English and 28 Maths questions.

For more detailed information about SEAG and the Entrance Assessment please go to:

<https://seagni.co.uk>

Faith Friends

Our P7 children will take part in the "Faith Friends" Programme with students from St. Joseph's, Grammar School, Donaghmore on Monday 17th April 2023 and Monday 24th April 2023. The Faith Friends programme is the coming together of P7s who are making confirmation and Year 13 pupils who share their knowledge, wisdom and experiences of being part of the Church. It is a learning and growing experience of both the children making confirmation and the Faith Friends who are seen to be helping them on this journey of faith. Over the two sessions the children will discuss their faith and belief, how they belong to the Church community and what gifts and fruits confirmation gives us.

The Year 13 students from St. Joseph's are able to teach our P7 children about their faith and discuss in an informal and fun way about key issues related to Confirmation like the Holy Spirit. This will be a very enriching experience for our children as they continue to prepare for their Confirmation.

Key Stage 2 Gardening Club

We are delighted to announce that we will be running a Gardening Club for our P6 and P7 children during Term 3. Mr Mc Erlean (P6) will run the sessions and we are delighted to be able to offer this club free of charge through the Extended Schools Programme. Gardening is not only healthy, fun, and fulfilling but it will also help our pupils develop new skills and expand their knowledge about the science of growing. The club will take place after school on a Thursday from 2:45-3:45pm. The dates for the P6 and P7 Gardening Club are listed below.

P6- (30th March 20th April, 27th April, 4th May)

P7- (11th May, 18th May, 25th May, 1st June)

There are only 12 places per class available for this after school. You will receive notification if your child has been selected for the Gardening Afterschool.

Katie Carey- The Calm Kit

We are delighted to announce that Katie Carey from "The Calm Kit" will be working with our Key Stage 2 pupils this term! The children will take part in well-being workshops on the following dates in Term 3. (21st April, 28th April and 12th May).

The children will take part in lots of fun activities including yoga, arts, crafts and music to promote positivity and healthy, happy minds. The workshops will help the children to become more confident and resilient. The children will have opportunities to express themselves, develop emotional resilience and relax.

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Primary 3 Trip to Tannaghmore Farm

On Friday 21st April 2023, the Primary 3 children will visit Tannaghmore Gardens and Farm as part of their World Around Us topic. The cost of the trip is **£14** and can be paid via School Money. Please ensure to complete and sign the consent form and return to school.

Children may wear P.E. uniform. We kindly request that the children have appropriate footwear (wellies etc), a change of socks and footwear and a waterproof coat. The children should bring a packed lunch. Children who receive Free School Meals will be given a lunch by the school kitchen. The children will be home for home time and school buses.

Primary 6 Trip to the Planetarium

The Primary 6 children will be travelling to the Planetarium on **Friday 21st April 2023** as part of their World Around Us topic. The children should wear their school uniform and bring a packed lunch. Children in receipt of Free School Meals will be provided with a lunch from the school kitchen. Please note that the children will be back in time for the school buses.

The cost of the trip is **£9** and should be paid for via the SchoolMoney app. We kindly request that parents complete and sign the consent form and return to school.

P4 Drama Club

The P4 Drama Club (Group 2) will take place on Monday 3rd April 2023 and conclude on Monday 17th April 2023.

P3 Lego Club

The P3 Lego Club (Group 2) will take place on Monday 3rd April 2023 and conclude on Monday 17th April 2023.

All children must be collected promptly at 3:45pm from the school.

P6 Multi-Sport/Basketball Afterschool Club

Primary 6 children commenced the Multi-Sport/Basketball Afterschool Club on Monday **27th March 2023**. P6 children should bring their PE gear to school in a bag on the dates below. The children will be permitted to change at home-time.

The children should be **collected at 3:45 pm sharp**.

Multi-Sport/Basketball Afterschool Dates for Primary 6.

- Monday 27th March
- Monday 3rd April
- Monday 17th April
- Monday 24th April
- Monday 15th May

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions regarding any of the above.

Kind regards,

Louise Quinn