



St.Patrick's Primary School Sway Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our weekly Sway newsletter.

Thanks to Cillian Quinn and Robert O Mullan who helped produce this week's newsletter.

Please find important dates and events below. We will try to give as much notice and information as possible, however there may be times when dates may change, beyond our control.

- **Thursday 2nd April: school will finish at 11:30am for Easter holidays. This will be a non-uniform day. We ask if everyone could donate £1 for Trocaire. There will be no buses.**
- Monday 8th March: P7 (Mrs McCloskey's class) swimming. **9am sharp.**
- Tuesday 9th March: P6 After School Games club. 3-4pm.
- Tuesday 9th March: Healthy Kidz lessons. P4-P7 please bring PE gear.
- Tuesday 9th March: P7 boys After School football. See message below for the link.
- Thursday 12th March: P4 Assembly at 1:15pm in the school hall.
- Friday 13th March: Gerard Mc Nulty will commence training in school for P5-P7. Children in the classes involved please bring PE gear.
- Monday 16th March: Staff Development Day- no children in school.

- Tuesday 17th March: School holiday- no children in school.
- Wednesday 18th March: Staff Development Day- no children in school.
- Primary 5 interviews will take place on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th March. ONLY the P5 class will go home at 2pm on these days. Interview times have been sent out.
- Monday 23rd March - Friday 27th March: Big Walk and Wheel Week in School. More details to follow.
- Thursday 26th March: Ditch the Stabilisers for P1. Places are limited. Information has already been sent home.
- Thursday 26th March: P2 Assembly at 1:15pm.
- **Thursday 2nd April: school will finish at 11:30am for Easter holidays. This will be a non-uniform day. We ask if everyone could donate £1 for Trocaire. There will be no buses.**

Sacraments: More information will follow closer to the time.

- First Holy Communion: P4 Saturday 16th May at 11am
- Confirmation: P7 Friday 24th April at 11am
- Woodhall Residential: Both P7 classes Monday 27th April- 29th April 2026

Hopefully you find our weekly Sway newsletter useful. We aim to give you a snapshot of life in St. Patrick's, while also providing relevant dates and information. If you have any queries please telephone the school office and we will try to help.

Please find the link below for our new school website. Copy the address and paste into your searchbar.

In downloads you can find our recent Curriculum Information Evenings presentations as well as our school policies.

<https://stpatricksrasharkin.com/>

IMPORTANT

Please find a copy of the dinner menu.

EAT SMART WEEK THE LUNCH BUNCH					
WEEK BEGINNING	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
16th February 23rd March 30th April 6th May 13th June	Bacon Fry (vegetarian with Lentils) -Or- Coleslaw Crispy Potatoes Roasted Broccoli & Baked Beans Chopped Potatoes & Baked Beans Selection of Fruit (lighter fruit)	Homemade Beef Burgers -Or- Bacon Pasta with Tomato Sauce with Herb Dressing Bacon Cakes & Green Beans Toad in the Hole & Peas (vegetarian) Chicken Curry with Cauliflower -Or- Vegetarian Curry with Cauliflower	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry & Masala Bread -Or- Chicken & Tomato Pasta with Herb Dressing Chicken Pasta with Seasonal Beans Spiced Lamb & Peas (vegetarian) Pasta & Seasonal Vegetables	Lunch Bunch with Cauliflower and Herb Dressing -Or- Crispy Potato Croquette Seasoned Potatoes & Cauliflower Roasted Potatoes & Oven Baked Potatoes Chicken and Peas (vegetarian)	Hot Dog with Tomato Ketchup -Or- Baked Potato with Baked Beans or Tomato Sauce & Cheese Sauce Lamb Pie & Macaroni on the Cob Crispy Potatoes & Baked Beans Veggie Ice Cream with Strawberry Sauce
20th February 27th March 5th April 12th May 19th June	Beef Pies and Chicken Balls Seasonal Potatoes & Baked Beans Chopped Potatoes & Baked Beans Frozen Strawberry Yogurt and Fruit Pops	Hot Beef Chili -Or- Coleslaw Chicken Meatballs Homemade Apple Sprung with Custard Sauce	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry & Masala Bread -Or- Oven Baked Vegetable Casseroles with Potatoes & Herb Dressing Lamb Pie & Baked Beans Lamb Pie & Baked Potatoes Hot Dog with Seasonal Vegetables	Roast Turkey with Cauliflower and Herb Dressing -Or- Roast Quorn with Herb Dressing -Or- Roast Chicken & Spring Cabbage Roasted Potatoes & Oven Baked Potatoes Hot Dog and Mashed Potatoes	Chopped Chicken with Seasonal Vegetables -Or- Chicken Cakes Macaroni on the Cob & Crunchy Veggie Sauce Chopped Potatoes & Baked Potatoes Caramelized Onions with Orange Wedges
26th March 2nd April 9th May 16th June 23rd June	Golden Cheddar Fish Fingers -Or- Mighty Mac 'n' Cheese Garden Peas & Spaghetti Noodles Chopped Potatoes & Baked Beans Bacon Baked Potatoes	Homemade Beef Burgers -Or- Spring Potatoes with Cauliflower Seasoned Potatoes & Fresh Seasonal Salad Fruit Pops & Baked Baked Potatoes Bunwich Hot Dog with Fries	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry & Masala Bread -Or- Hot Dog with Cheese Sauce Green Beans & Bacon Cakes Roasted Potatoes & Oven Baked Potatoes Bunwich and Cheese Sprung with Custard	Roast Chicken with Stuffing and Herb Dressing -Or- Hot Dog with Cheese Sauce Cauliflower & Roast Potatoes (vegetarian) Mashed Potatoes & Oven Baked Potatoes Jelly Whip with Mandarin Oranges	Baked Pork Sausages -Or- Chicken and Potatoes with Herb Dressing Seasonal Salad Seasoning & Baked Beans Chopped Potatoes & Mashed Potatoes Frozen Strawberry Yogurt with Seasonal Vegetables
6th March 13th April 20th May 27th June 4th June	Homemade Beef Burgers -Or- Chicken Strung Bacon Cakes & Seasonal Beans Fruit Pops & Oven Baked Potatoes Milk, Mandarins and Peppercorn Pie	Hot and Cheesy Pasta -Or- Vegetarian Seasonal Vegetables Quadruple with Hummus Seasoning & Cakes Seasoning & Jelly Potatoes Raspberry Jelly with Toy Fruits	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry & Masala Bread -Or- Hot Dog Fox Meat Beef and Veg. Tostitos Dip Garden Peas & Baked Beans Seasoned Potatoes Baked Potato & Potato Salad Potatoes (vegetarian) Chicken Curry with Cheese with Custard	Roast Beef with Truffle Potatoes Baking and Herb Dressing -Or- Baked Potato and Tomato Pasta Bacon Cakes & Cauliflower Mashed Potatoes & Oven Baked Potatoes Chicken Baked Potatoes with Chopped Fruit	Chewy Baked Chicken Goujons -Or- Turkey and Potato Salad Garden Peas & Baked Beans Chopped Potatoes, Baked Potatoes & Fresh Seasonal Salad Homemade Vegetable Soup with Mashed Potatoes

MILK, WATER, BREAD AND FRESH FRUIT AVAILABLE DAILY | MENU SUBJECT TO PRODUCT AVAILABILITY | IF YOU REQUIRE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON ALLERGENS OR SPECIAL DIETS, PLEASE CONTACT www.scoils.ie

Congratulations to the Primary Three class who received the Sacrament of Penance on Thursday afternoon in the Church. Many thanks to Mrs O'Ceannubhain who prepared the children for this important event and also to Father Mc Williams.

On Friday morning the class enjoyed a big breakfast to celebrate.







Well done to the school choir who participated in the PeaceProms concert in Belfast at the weekend. Everyone had a wonderful experience and many thanks to the staff members who accompanied the children. Also an extra thank you to Miss Mc Gowan who has been busy preparing the choir since Term 1.



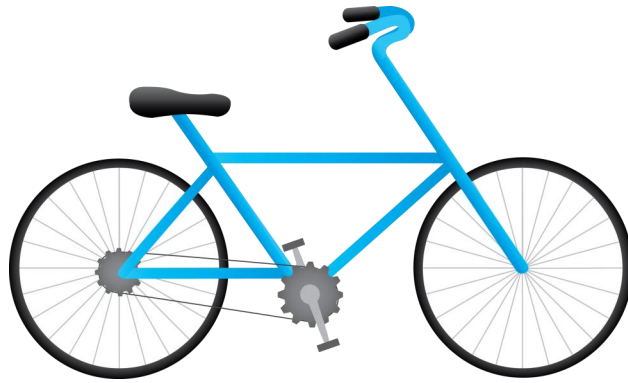






Ditch the Stabilisers Day will be held in school on Thursday 26th March for P1. Places are limited. Information has already been distributed.

Walk and Wheel to School Week will run from Monday 23rd March to Friday 27th March. We plan to meet in Fullan's carpark as usual at 8:30am to walk up together. We would love as many parents and other adults as possible to join us!



Well done to the Primary 7 boys who represented our school at the half time games at the Antrim V Wicklow game last Saturday.



Thank you so much to Paul and Julie Esler, Grace's parents, who so kindly gave up their Tuesday morning this week to visit P2. Paul, Chef and owner of Restaurant Sorrento in the Fairhill Shopping Centre, made the children chicken curry and rice which they enjoyed with prawn crackers. The Eslers also kindly brought in drinks for everyone. P2 have been learning all about China as their current topic. Tuesday was the last day of Chinese New Year and this was a lovely way to celebrate. Thank you so much Paul, Julie and Grace!









Primary 1 have also been busy enjoying their reading time and exploring outside around the school grounds in Spring.





Primary one watch birds build their nests.



Primary one enjoy DEAR drop everything and read time.

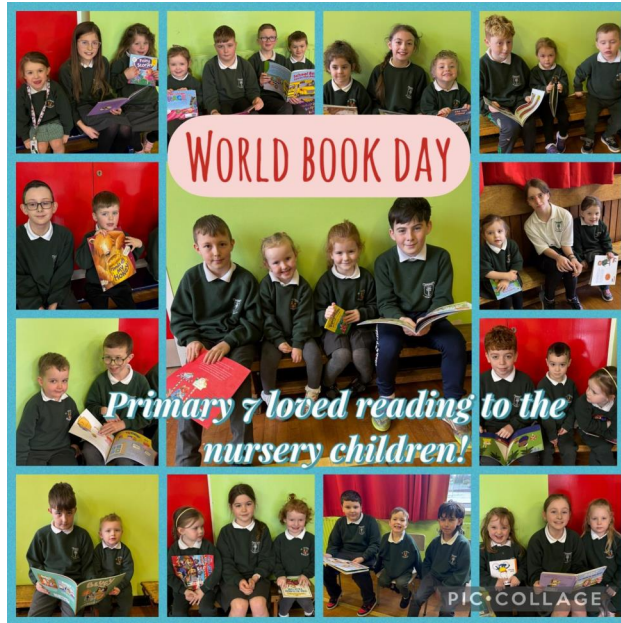




Congratulations to all the winners of the Internet Safety Poster competition.



On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day. All the classes took part in lots of fun activities and tasks to promote reading. The love of reading and Literacy has been alive in our school all week!



1 - n



2 - P6 reading with P2.



3 - Reading together.



4 - Book Buddies



5 - Book partners





6 - Creating book covers with Just2Easy.



7 - Creating book covers.



8 - Live Lessons with Just2Easy.

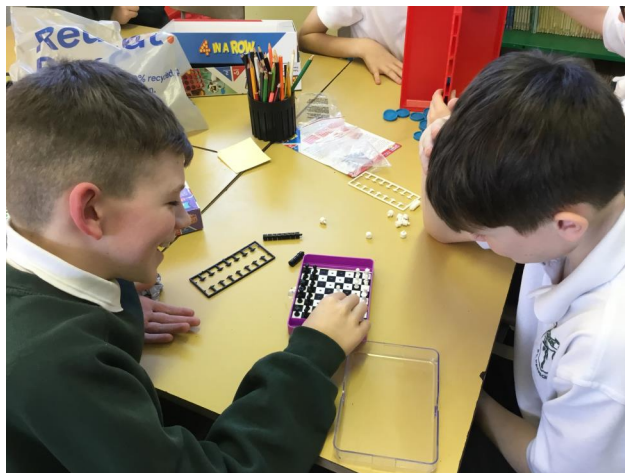




This week we started an After School Games club for P6. The pupils played popular board games without an electronic device in sight! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this time; some pupils even wanted to stay!









On Thursday we welcomed Roisin who works for Trocaire into school. Roisin spoke about the Trocaire Lenten appeal this year, helping many people in Africa.

Primary 7s will commence their Trocaire Thursdays on Thursday 12th March, where all pupils will have the opportunity to come to the hall to buy treats, enter raffles and take part in games. We hope to raise lots of money for Trocaire. All games range in price from 30p to £1. Again we thank you the parents for contributing generously.





After School Football for P7 boys will start on Tuesday 10th March. Children must be collected at 4pm. The cost is £20 for 5 weeks. Please click on the link to book directly with from Healthy Kidz.

<https://activities.bookpebble.co.uk/activity/healthy-kidz-st-patricks-ps-rasharkin-term-2-b2-2026-ballymena-b13e4c10-e38a-4e4d-95bc-065912f3346f>

Congratulations to the pupils from P1-P7 who received Pupil of the day this week. Well done everyone!



In the weeks ahead the classes will be taking part and organising various events for Trocaire. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity when contributing to school events and functions.



Congratulations to Cian Doherty who won a signed Antrim jersey at the game at the weekend .



This week the Nursery class have been busy learning about people who help us. They had a special visit to the fire station in Ballymena and the dentist came in to school to tell them all about her work.



St.Mary's GAC

Training for the following teams continues in Dunloy Indoor Academy on Saturdays.

P1/2 - Football and Hurling - 2-3pm

P3/4 Hurling 1-2pm

P5/6 Hurling 3-4pm



Well done to the P7 canteen monitors, who continue to help and assist the preparation of the canteen at lunch time. They all display great teamwork and initiative!



Please remember the importance of being to school on time each morning. All classes from P1-P7 begin their learning at 9am. Any late arrivals must be recorded as late on the school attendance.

Also where possible, please try to schedule appointments after school for children. Again, leaving school early reduces learning and must be recorded on the pupil attendance.

