



Week beginning Monday 29th March 2021 Newsletter

www.stmaryspsportaferry.co.uk

Week Beginning 29th March



It has been a great week in school and we are delighted with how well all of our pupils have adapted to the return to school. To celebrate this fact we will be organising a whole school "Easter Extravaganza" event for all pupils from Nursery through to Primary 7 on the last day of this term, Wednesday 31st March 2021.

We have a number of different events planned for our pupils that we are very excited about and I know our pupils will be too.

During this day we are asking each class to wear as close to a nominated coloured t- shirt, jumper or have a coloured material that can go over a top. Each class's colour scheme is;

- Nursery/P1 - purple
- P2 - dark blue
- P3 - light blue
- P4 - green
- P5 - yellow
- P6 - orange

➤ P7 - red

On Wednesday 31st all pupils should come to school in their PE gear, preferably in school tracksuit. They can wear the specific coloured T-shirt, jumper or material into school underneath their jacket or bring in to wear later.

We will not be disclosing any more information on our 'Easter Extravaganza' as we do not want to ruin the surprise but you will see plenty of pictures on our school website on Wednesday 31st March 2021.

Contacting the School

If contacting the school about any queries or issues, please remember that the first point of contact is by phone to the school office: 028 427 28278. School e-mail is info@stmarysps.portaferry.ni.sch.uk

We will pass on messages to your child's teacher when received and get back to you as soon as possible.

Easter Holidays



Our school will finish on Wednesday 31st March for the Easter Holidays with no pupils attending school from Thursday 1st



April. School will re-open on Monday 12th April. The remaining scheduled holidays for term three are;

Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th May

School closed for pupils

Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

School closed for pupils.

Sacraments

We are hoping to celebrate the following sacraments on the following dates;

- Primary 4; First Holy Communion
Saturday 8th May 2021
- Primary 7; Confirmation
Wednesday 26th May 2021

We have not yet been able to confirm a date for Primary 3 First Confession.

Obviously, these dates are very dependent on factors outside of our control but we hope to be in a position to confirm timings and the logistics of who can attend etc once we come back from the Easter holidays.

High five



The latest edition of the EA High Five Primary Behaviour Support & Provisions magazine is available on <https://www.eani.org.uk/sites/default/files/2021-03/HIGH%20FIVE%20-%20ISSUE%2021%20-%2026%20MARCH.pdf>

DINNERS

This week's menu is contained below.

Dinners cost £2.60 per day and must be paid at the beginning of each week in a clearly marked envelope with your child's name and days on which they wish to have school dinner

Monday	Steak Casserole with Mashed Potato & Veg/ <i>Orange Segments</i> Ham/ Cheese/ Jam Sandwich / Biscuit/ Drink
Tuesday	Chicken Stir-fry with Veg & Potato Cubes/ <i>Muffin</i> Ham/ Cheese/ Jam Sandwich / Biscuit/ Drink
Wednesday	Sausages and chips <i>Frozen Strawberry Yoghurt</i> Ham/ Cheese/ Jam Sandwich / Biscuit/ Drink

PSG Easter Draw

Our Parent Support Group continue to sell tickets for an Easter Hamper draw from The Rock Bakery. Tickets cost £1 each.



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Everyone has a role to play in keeping our schools safe and helping to stop the spread of COVID-19.

DON'T SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY HAVE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS.

VISIT [NIDIRECT.GOV.UK/CORONAVIRUS](https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/coronavirus) TO BOOK A TEST ONLINE. CALL 119 IF YOU CANNOT BOOK A TEST ONLINE.

YOU SHOULD BOOK A COVID-19 TEST IF YOUR CHILD HAS:

A HIGH TEMPERATURE

This means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature).

OR

A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).

OR

A LOSS OR CHANGE TO THEIR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

IF YOUR CHILD DOES NOT HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 BUT HAS OTHER COLD-LIKE SYMPTOMS, SUCH AS A RUNNY NOSE, THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE TESTED AND THEY OR MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD DO NOT NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE. YOUR CHILD CAN ATTEND SCHOOL IF FIT TO DO SO.

HERE'S WHAT TO DO IF:

YOUR CHILD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the test is negative providing they are well enough, have not had a fever for 48 hours and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result
- Self-isolate for at least 10 days as advised by the PHA.

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school after 10 days even if they still have a cough / loss of smell or taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks.

SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- The household member should book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the symptomatic household member's test is negative and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms*.

CONTACT TRACING HAS IDENTIFIED MY CHILD AS A CLOSE CONTACT

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for at least 14 days as advised by the PHA Contact Tracing Service

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms*.

YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A CLOSE CONTACT

WHAT TO DO?

- Attend school as normal
- If your child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms they should carry on with normal activities.

YOUR CHILD HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD AND HAS TO SELF-ISOLATE

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for 14 days in line with quarantine advice

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms*.

*If your child has been identified as a close contact of a case of COVID-19, or has returned from travel abroad and is self-isolating, they must self-isolate for 14 days regardless of a negative COVID-19 test result.

Further information, including Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Carers, can be found on the Department of Education's website at www.education-ni.gov.uk

EDUCATION RESTART

