

Week beginning Monday 6th March 2023

Newsletter

www.stmaryspsportaferry.com

WORLD MATHS DAY

Our school will take part in 'World Maths Day' on Wednesday 8th March. This is a very exciting opportunity for your child to work on developing their practical, mental, written and computerised Numeracy skills. Our Foundation Stage pupils will take part in various 'Measures' activities while Key Stage One and Key Stage Two pupils will continue to enjoy the benefits of our wonderful online learning platform that is 'Mathletics' through their 'Live Maths Challenges'. As our school already subscribes to 'Mathletics', it is simply a matter of logging on on the day in school and in the evening at home with the child's usual username and password to complete the online challenges. Of course, if you and your child wish to investigate more during the week or in the future there are many more suggestions below. Good luck everyone and may the best Mathlete win! 🏆



WORLD BOOK DAY

As part of World Book Day we challenged our pupils to create their own 'Snowball Story.' The idea was that Primary 1 would start a story chain with their opening few sentences. This beginning story would then pass onto Primary 2 to add their few sentences and then this would continue in class order, with all classes collectively adding to the story, until it would come to the Primary 7 class and they would complete the story.

Once we finished this process we came together, as a whole school, and read out the completed story to all. We were unsure as to how this would progress

but we were delighted with the end result. If you have not had a chance to read the story yet, it is still available on the school website or by following the link

<https://www.stmaryspsportaferry.com/news/the-adventures-of-scallywag-mcg/?p=1&>

We hope you enjoy reading this story just as much as our pupils enjoyed creating it.



Also on World Book Day we set a challenge to match the book to the Teacher. It led to a lot of discussions and only Belle (P4) matched all correctly. All answers submitted were placed in a draw and Adam (P7) was chosen as our overall winner Thank you to everyone who took part.





THURSDAY 16th MARCH 2023

To accommodate staff training, our school will be closed for all pupils on Thursday 16th March 2023. School will also be closed on Friday 17th March for St Patrick's Day and will re-open for all pupil on Monday 20th March 2023.

TROCAIRE

Our Parents Support Group have provided two Easter teddy Bunny's for our Lenten Trocaire Campaign. Pupils are asked to guess the names for each Easter Bunny rabbit. Tickets for a guess are 20p a guess and the person who guesses the correct name will win the Easter bunny. This will be available until Wednesday 5th April 2023.



MILLIONAIRE READER

We were delighted to present Sophia (P7) with her latest Millionaire reader certificate as part of the Accelerated Reader programme. This is Sophia third year in a row to receive this certificate and certainly demonstrates a great love and enjoyment for reading.



PSG TRIP TO KILDARE VILLAGE

Our Parents Support Group have organised a bus trip to Kildare Village on Sunday 2nd April 2023. Places are filling up quickly and there are only a few spaces still available. Contact Jennifer Mason or Sinead Sims to secure your place.



PSG QUIZ NIGHT

Please find details below of an upcoming Quiz Night in Portaferry Hotel being organised by our Parents Support Group.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Clubs will continue on Monday 20th February through until Wednesday 5th April 2023. Clubs can be paid for weekly at £2 per session attended. You can register your child by sending in weekly payment in an envelope with your child's name clearly stated at the front and which days you wish your child to attend.

JUDO AFTER SCHOOL

Peggy will be in school on Thursday 9th March 2023 to deliver After Schools Judo. You need to go to <https://www.teamo.chat/club/register/psj> to register your attendance.

IRISH DANCING AFTER SCHOOL

Deirdre will be back in the school on Wednesday 8th March 2023 for After School Irish Dancing.



BREAKFAST CLUB

Remember, you don't necessarily need to pre-book. Just turn up from 8.00am and a warm welcome and satisfying breakfast awaits. The cost is £2 person attending.



PUPILS OF THE WEEK

During this month of February our focus is on Always Trying Your Best. This week our Pupils of the Week were;

P1	Aodhan
P2	Tyler
P3	Daniel
P4	Charlie
P5	Shane
P6	Niamh
P7	Sophia



HOUSE TEAMS

We presented Gold House Point certificates to Tom

in Primary 3 and Lucas in Primary 5.



CELEBRATION TIME

This week we celebrate together with Callie (P3), Isla (P4) and Holy (P6) who all won various trophies and medals for Irish Dancing. We also celebrated with Oscar who scored a goal in his football match and the Portaferry Town Boys (2013) who won their last match.



SCHOOL DINNERS

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	Spaghetti Bolognese, crusty bread, tossed salad. <i>Melon, cheese and crackers</i>
Tuesday	Breaded fish goujons, sweetcorn, mashed potato; <i>flake meal biscuit & fresh fruit</i>
Wednesday	Roast pork, stuffing, gravy, cauliflower, carrots, oven dry roast and mashed potato; <i>Fresh fruit selection & yoghurt</i>
Thursday	Breast of Chicken Curry with boiled rice, naan bread, <i>Garden Peas, chocolate sponge & custard</i>
Friday	Breaded chicken bites, beans, chips, baked potato, coleslaw, tossed salad; <i>jelly, ice-cream & fresh fruit</i>

BREAK

Monday

Toast 30p or
Pancake 50p

Tuesday

Toast 30p

Wednesday

Toast 30p or buttered bagel 50p

Thursday

Toast 30p

Friday

Toast 30p or homemade buttered scone 50p
Also available daily!



Apple/ Orange juice 40p; Milkshake 40p; water 50p;
Selection of fresh fruit 25p

HIGH FIVE

It's time for another edition of HIGH FIVE, the fortnightly magazine produced by Primary Behaviour Support and Provisions, packed full of good ideas to inspire, support and challenge all our young people to be the best they can be.

Our theme in this issue is to **Be Reflective** and shares good ideas to help children begin the habit of journaling. The **Staff Hub** in this issue signposts to resources supporting transition for P7 pupils- it's never too early to start!

Follow link below to access this newsletter.

<https://www.eani.org.uk/sites/default/files/2023-02/High%20Five%20Newsletter%20-%20Issue%2056%20-%20Februaury%202023%20-%20Be%20Reflective.pdf>



CONTACTING SCHOOL

If your child is absent from school, or you need to contact the school, for whatever reason, please contact the school, either by telephone on 028427 28278 or by e-mail at

info@stmarysps.portaferry.ni.sch.uk If there is no-one in the office to take your call, please leave a message on the answering machine stating the nature of your call or that your child will not be in school that particular day. When your child returns to school please give a written confirmation for their reason of absence. This is also needed, even if you have contacted the school already.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 6th March

P5/6/7 Hurling with Danny Toner

Tuesday 7th March

P7 Swimming

Friday 10th March

P3 First Confession

UPCOMING DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thursday 16th and Friday 17th March

School closed for Pupils

Thursday 23rd March

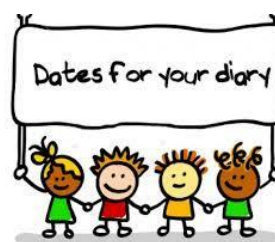
Celebration of P7 Confirmation

Thursday 6th April

School closes at 11.00am for Easter Holidays

Monday 17th April

School re-opens for pupils



CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFE-GUARDING

If you have any concerns regarding the safety of your child please contact Mrs Breen (Designated Teacher for Safeguarding and Child Protection) or Mr Denvir (Deputy Designated Teacher for Safeguarding and Child Protection).

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Each week we will be introducing a different whole schooling community "Thought for the Week." Should you wish to, this is an opportunity to reflect on the words and relate to how they might influence or impact upon us. During this period of lent our themes will be relating to this time.

God, I pray for
my prayer life to become
vibrant and strong in this season
of Lent. I pray that Your voice,
even though a whisper, would
ring loud and true in my life.
I pray for the courage and
boldness to follow wherever
You lead me, to love and serve
whomever and however
You invite me.

Amen.



Share Catholic
www.ShareCatholic.com



