

Week beginning Monday 13th March 2023 Newsletter

www.stmaryspsportaferry.com

PRIMARY 3 SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

There was no whole school assembly on Friday as this day was a very special day for our Primary 3 class as they celebrated receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We are blessed to have such special boys and girls in Primary 3 and their participation throughout the service today, through performance, reading and singing was very moving and memorable. We, as a school, are extremely proud of you all. Thank you to Father Feargal and Father Neeson for officiating today and to Mrs Gibson and Mrs Healey for preparing the pupils for today's service. We hope our Primary 3 pupils enjoyed the rest of their celebrations on Friday.



GREEN DAY

To coincide with St Patrick's Day on Friday 17th March 2023, our school will be hosting a special Green Day on Wednesday 15th March. On this day, our pupils can come to school dressed in their own clothes or wear anything green. A contribution of £2 per child or £3 per pupil is requested for Trocaire.



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 pupils on Monday 20th March 2023.



WORLD MATHS DAY

A big thank you to all our pupils, parents, assistants and teachers who took part in and helped with our wonderful 'World Maths Day' activities during the last week. From magnificent measuring in Nursery, P1 and P2 to sensational scores in Mathletics from P3, P4, P5, P6 and P7. Mrs O'Neill our Numeracy co-ordinator presented all classes with some very special certificates today. As Thursday afternoon, P3 have scored 37,242 Mathletics Live Maths points, P4 have scored 55,657 Mathletics Live Maths points, P5 have scored 22,495 Mathletics Live Maths points, P6 have scored 79,784 Mathletics Live Maths points and P7 have scored 24,543 Mathletics Live Maths points to date. There are many other skills, tasks and quest points which have already been earned and we are looking forward to seeing even more bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates soon too. We hope that all our pupils have been inspired to continue to enjoy all things mathematical in the days, weeks, months and years to come. Keep up the great work everyone! ✨



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.



PSG QUIZ NIGHT

Please find details below of an upcoming Quiz Night in Portaferry Hotel being organised by our Parents Support Group on Tuesday 14th March 2023.



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.



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.

IRISH DANCING AFTER SCHOOL

Deirdre will be back in the school on Wednesday 15th 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.



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	Pasta Bolognese, crusty bread, sweetcorn Raspberry ripple ice-cream & fresh fruit chunks.
Tuesday	Salmon Fishcakes or breaded fish, baked beans, mashed potato Frozen Smoothie & Fresh Fruit
Wednesday	Roast Beef, gravy, stuffing, carrots & Parsnip, oven dry roast and mashed potato Popcorn cookies & watermelon chunks.

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 Proud** and the pupils in our EOTAS provisions have been reflecting and sharing their proud moments with us.

Follow link

<https://www.eani.org.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/Issue%2057%20HFN%20-%20Be%20Proud.pdf> to access this edition.



PARENTLINE

Please see below flyer for a Parent Discussion Groups that Parentline are hosting during March.

- Parents Talk ADHD, Wednesday 29th March 7.30-8.30pm

Parents Talk ADHD

Same boat different storm
Sharing your journey through ADHD

Wed 29th March
7.30-8.30pm
on Zoom

ADHD

creative, impatient, meltdowns, risk-taking, anxious, disorganised, frustrated, kind, hyperactive, sleep, humorous, impulsive, loving, inattentive, smart, irritable

Is this discussion group for me?

- Are you the parent or carer of a child with ADHD?
- Would you appreciate a space to connect with others who can offer empathy, support and solutions?

If you answered yes we would love you to join us for our online parent discussion group

What do I need to do?

- Phone 0800 8020 400 to book a place
- There are a maximum of 2 places per group
- If the discussion group is not for you please contact us to arrange 1:1 support from one of our experienced parent support officers on 0800 8020 400 or request a helpful resource via email

ParentlineNI
0800 8020 400

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 13th March

P5/6/7 Hurling with Danny Toner

Tuesday 14th March

P7 Swimming

10.00am P4/5 Attending Film presentation in Portico

PSG Quiz in Portaferry Hotel

Wednesday 15th March

am P1/2/3 Attending Film Presentation on Portico Green Day

Thursday 16th and Friday 17th March

School closed for Pupils

Upcoming Dates for the Diary

Thursday 23rd March

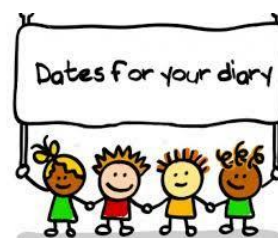
Celebration of P7 Confirmation

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.

