

**Week beginning Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024**  
**Newsletter**

[www.stmaryspsportaferry.com](http://www.stmaryspsportaferry.com)

### **TERM 3 REMINDER HOMEWORK TASKS AND HOME SUPPORT**

At the beginning of another new school term, it is important that we, as a schooling community, continue to maintain the highest standards of practice, in particular with completing and returning assigned homework tasks to school. As a school we value your continuing support and your ongoing contribution towards our home to school partnership. We, therefore, would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents to continue to monitor their child's completion of assigned homework tasks and to ensure that your child returns all homework tasks to school on the correct days. As always, we expect all homework activities to be completed to a high standard and for this to be presented in a neat and tidy manner. It is also important for classroom organisation that the correct books are returned on time so that staff are not continually chasing up homework and reading books.



### **CONFIRMATION - FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024**

Our P1/2/3 classes will be dismissed at 11.00am on Friday with the confirmation service beginning at 12.00noon. Our P4/5/6 pupils will participate as a choir. Following the service our P4/5/6 pupils will return to school and be dismissed at 1.30pm, from school. Our Confirmandi will be attending the school for some refreshments. All staff are cordially invited to attend the ceremony.

### **TROCAIRE**

During the season of Lent our classes and pupils were busy organising and participating in many events to raise money for Trocaire. We are delighted to confirm that the school raised £700

and this was donated to Trocaire during the week. Thank you once again for your continuing generosity.



### **AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

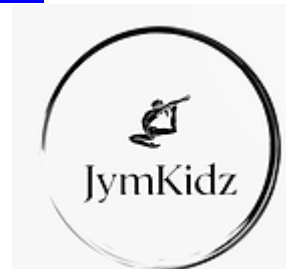
Our After School room continues throughout this term. Attendance can also be paid for weekly at £2.50 per session attended.

We are also delighted to announce that we have a number of other activities planned for this term.

### **GYMNASTICS**

We will be starting After School's Gymnastics from Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024. We are delighted to be working with Jymkids and a letter has been issued through our school website. This letter will also be sent home on Monday. The cost of this will be £4 per session with all money to be paid online. For more information visit their website at

[www.jymkidz.com](http://www.jymkidz.com)



### **PORTFERRY GAC**

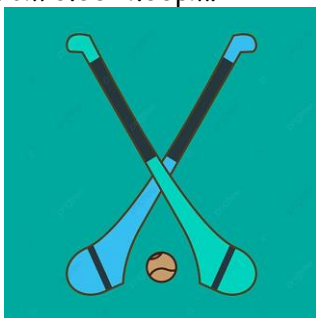
We are delighted that coaches from Portaferry GAC continue to visit our school each Monday afternoon to deliver an After School activity. These sessions continue to be well attended. To assist with staffing this activity we now request a £1 contribution from all pupils attending.





### DANNY TONER

Danny will be returning to the school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April and will be delivering hurling/ camogie sessions to our Primary 5/6/7 classes. This will continue until the end of this school year. Danny will also be assisting with the After School Hurling programme from 3.00-4.00pm.



### JUDO AFTER SCHOOL

Peegy will be in the school from Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 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 is still attending the school every Wednesday afternoon between 2.00pm - 4.00pm for any pupil who may be interested in learning Irish Dancing. Cost is £2.50 per session.

### IFA FOOTBALL PROGRAMME

The IFA will be delivering an innovative Reading and Football session for Primary 3 and 4 pupils each Tuesday afternoon, during school time. The aim of the programme is to encourage reluctant readers through football. Each session will last for 45/50 minutes and begin with reading to the class from a football related novel before having a football PE session. We look forward to getting this started.



Foundation

# Grassroots and Football Books



### 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 per person attending.



### PUPILS OF THE WEEK

During this month of February our focus is on Looking out for the needs of others. This week our Pupils of the Week were:

P1	Jacob
P2	Aoibheann
P3	Lilah
P4	Leigha
P5	Isla
P6	Harrison
P7	Ava
Playground Supervisor Award	Lilah (P3) Brooke (P6)



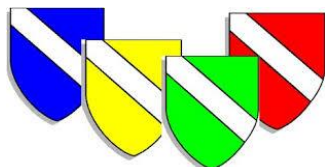


## HOUSE TEAMS

The House Points for this week were:

House Colour	This Week	Totals
Red	162	162
Blue	154	154
Green	143	143
Yellow	137	137

The Red Team earned extra play time.



We presented Gold House Point certificate to Leah (P4) for achieving 100 House Points since the start of this school year.



## MATHLETICS

Mathletic certificates were presented to Clíodhna, Leah, Jack, Lucy and Aidan in Primary 4 and to Hannah and Oscar in Primary 5



## ACCELERATED READER

At our weekly Assembly we presented our word count certificates for Accelerated Reader for up to the month of March 2024. Sean, Meah, JJ, Luis and Ronan in Primary 7, Leo (P6) and Ethan (P5) were presented with their 50,000 word count certificate. Alex, Ethan and Cormac in Primary 5 received their 100,000 word certificate, Carter (P6) his 250,000 word certificate and Grace and Evan in Primary 6 received their 500,000 word

certificates. Well done to all of our enthusiastic readers.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

This week we send birthday greetings to Oliver (P6), Alannah (P6), Rachel (P7), Rebecca (P7), Stephen (P6), Lucas (P6) Clíodhna (P1) and Braden (P6).

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

## 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	Golden crumbled fish fingers, sweetcorn, chipped potatoes, coleslaw; ice-cream, pears & chocolate sauce
Tuesday	Homemade Cottage Pie, spring greens, butternut squash, oven



	baked potato wedges; summer fruit cheesecake
Wednesday	Beef meatballs with tomato & basil sauce, green beans, baton carrots, pasta spirals; sticky date pudding & custard
Thursday	Roast pork, stuffing & gravy, fresh vegetables in season mashed, oven roast potato; green krispie square
Friday	School 'Chippy Day' chicken goujon wrap, beans, mushy peas, chipped potatoes; frozen fruit yoghurt

#### BREAK

#### 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

### CONTACTING THE SCHOOL/ ABSENCE FROM 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](mailto: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.



### IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY

#### Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April

After School Hurley/ Camogie

#### Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April

2-4.00pm Eureka Seekers

#### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April

2-4.00pm After School Gymnastics

#### Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April

12.00noon P7 Confirmation

#### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April

School Photographer

### SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2024

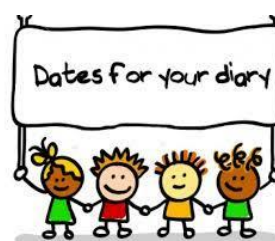
The following dates have been agreed for the sacraments for next year;

#### **First Communion:**

*Celebration of Sacrament - Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 10.00am*

#### **Confirmation:**

*Celebration of Sacrament - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 12.00noon in St Patrick's*



### CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING

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.

**SOMETIMES  
YOU FORGET  
THAT YOU'RE  
AWESOME  
SO HERE'S A  
REMINDER**



