



# ST. MARY'S NEWSLETTER

Spring 2021

Term 2

## **Dear Parents,**

We would like to thank you for your cooperation in the return of the Primary 1, 2 and 3 children this week and the continued engagement of Primary 4-7 in our remote learning programme. We are delighted to see the younger children back in school. Following the agreement by the NI Executive yesterday (11<sup>th</sup> March), the decision was made for these children to continue with face to face teaching for the remainder of this term.

The dates P1-P3 are in school are:

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> & Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March (School closed St Patrick's 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>)

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 12.00noon (Holy Thursday, Easter Holidays begin.)

Mrs McAlinden

## **St Patrick's Day Virtual Run**

The FOSM have organised a virtual run with all proceeds in aid of our school funds. This event is on St Patrick's Day. There will be prizes for the best St. Patrick's day themed fancy dress and every entrant will receive a bespoke medal. Entrants will have from Saturday 13th March to Sunday 21st March to complete their run.

The cost is £10 per adult. £5 for all primary school children (any school).

Please support our Virtual Run and more details are on the FOSM Face book Page

<https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-St-Marys-Virtual-Run-10km-5km-and-Family-Fun-Run-101596858615534>

We would like to thank all the sponsors of this event for their generous contributions.



A huge thanks to the FOSM for their support in helping secure grant funding for the school.

We are delighted to have received a grant of £10,493 from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland/Department of Communities. This funding will enrich our children's musical experiences as it has enabled us to purchase a wide variety of musical instruments including percussion instruments, cellos, violas and violins. Having this funding will help us to continue the tradition of music within the school.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank both the Art Council of Northern Ireland as well as the Department of Communities for providing us with this grant.

## **Reminder! Post-Primary Admissions Process closes on 16th March at 4pm**

If additional information is required or any difficulty is experienced, parents can contact the admissions helpdesk via the email address [postprimaryadmissions@eani.org.uk](mailto:postprimaryadmissions@eani.org.uk). Guidance videos and documents are also available on the EA website.

Tel: 028 95985595 Monday – Thursday 8am – 8pm, Friday 8am - 5pm

**Back to School or Childcare Setting:  
Supporting you to support your child.**



Parentline NI is running FREE and confidential one to one sessions with Parent Support Officer Kathy.

The aim of these sessions is to support any parent/carer who is concerned about their child's separation anxieties or reluctance to return to school.

- Explore your own strengths and feelings.
- Explore ways of coping with change and building resilience.
- Explore separation anxiety and approaches which may help your child to overcome it.
- Explore school reluctance, its various causes and some positive coping strategies.
- Explore co-regulation and ideas to strengthen family communication and relationships.

**When: Every Thursday in March and April**

For more information or to book a place call free 0808 8020 400

facebook.com/parentlineni



**Parentline NI** - free sessions to support any parent/carer who is concerned about their child's separation anxieties or reluctance to return to school, will take place every Thursday throughout March and April. There are still a limited number of spaces available and you can book a place by calling our free helpline.



## LET'S ALL KEEP OUR SCHOOL SAFE

We need your help! We want everyone to be safe, healthy and enjoy school. So, make sure you follow these new rules...

### IF YOU ARE SICK YOU MIGHT HAVE TO STAY AT HOME

Going to school is really important but if you have a bad cough or feel very warm, tell a grown up right away.



### GIVE EACH OTHER SPACE

Keep a safe distance from your teachers and friends as much as you can. You should try to stay in your bubble.



### CATCH YOUR COUGHS & SNEEZES

Cover your face with your elbow or use a tissue. (Don't forget to put used tissues in the bin!)



### WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands lots of times during the day. (Make sure you wash them as soon as you get to school too!)



### HOLD ONTO YOUR OWN ITEMS

You shouldn't share things like pencils, food and drinks with your friends.



**IT'S OK TO HAVE QUESTIONS!  
YOU CAN ALWAYS ASK A PARENT, CARER OR TEACHER.**

### EDUCATION RESTART



**Many thanks to you all for your continued support.**

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