



12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA  
Phone: (028) 3026 2175

22/03/24

Dear parents,

**Pupils' achievements:**

Several pupils have enjoyed success recently in a variety of competitions. I delight in hearing of their success and have appreciated the photographs that parents have sent in which have then been posted on the school website. I would love if you could do this as we want to celebrate our children's remarkable achievements. Please send photographs and a brief explanation to [stclaresabbey@gmail.com](mailto:stclaresabbey@gmail.com)

A special word of congratulations must go to one of our very modest P5 girls, Cara Murray, who recently won first place in a dance competition in Holland- the Tulip Challenge- such an achievement!

We wish good luck to Jane Mc Court and Courtney Adams who will be representing St Clare's Abbey in the Swimming Schools' Championships in Dublin on Sunday- Go girls!!!!!!

**World Down Syndrome Day- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March:**

We had a most joyous celebration at assembly yesterday when Caoimhe Judge made a presentation to us all sharing her experience of living with Down Syndrome. She was outstanding and really educated our whole school community. Caoimhe is a great ambassador for St Clare's Abbey and we were delighted to have her parents in attendance at the assembly to see her excellent work and the high regard in which she is held by us all.

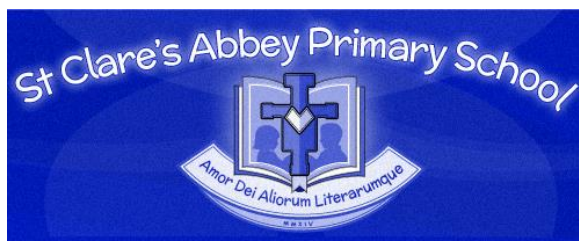
**Recent visit from PSNI:**

Whilst doing a spot check on parking on the hill last week they noted that several pupils were not using the school crossing patrol and were choosing to cross the road at other points. Please remind your children regardless of their age that they are to cross the road with the assistance of the 'Lollipop man' regardless of which gate they are dismissed from at the end of the day. I have asked the teachers to have the same conversation with their classes.

**Eat to Defeat challenge:**

This challenge was led by the school Eco council in an effort to urge the children to eat more vegetables. Our talented Cook, Elaine, and her team prepared a wide and very attractive array of vegetables and there was a significant increase in the number of pupils 'trying.' Thank you to Mrs Mc Keown our Eco Schools co-ordinator for organising this.





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#### **Parish Family Mass:**

This will be held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 in St Brigid's church. The liturgy will be led by the St Clare's Abbey boys and girls and I invite parents of P7 & P6 pupils who would like to have their children participate, to send me an email [mmonaghan771@c2kni.net](mailto:mmonaghan771@c2kni.net).

As at the previous mass in October, parts will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis.

#### **Easter celebrations:**

At assembly we spoke to the children about Palm Sunday which will be celebrated in our churches this weekend. Throughout next week we will share the incredible story of Holy week with our pupils and will consider it a great privilege to do so. We feel that it is crucial that they know the true meaning behind the Easter season. We will also hold the Easter Egg raffles on Wednesday and urge your children to make a 'last ditch' effort to bring in money for their class Trocaire collection. It seems no time since we launched the appeal at the start of Lent. Weather permitting we will also hold our annual Easter egg hunts in the school forest in the days to come. All in all it promises to be a wonderful week.

Reminder-School will close at 12pm on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> and will reopen on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

Enjoy a lovely weekend,

yours in partnership,

Mrs Monaghan

