



APRIL 2019 – JUNE 2019

ST CLARE'S ABBEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME . . .

Dear Parents,

I hope that you feel refreshed after the Easter break and that you enjoyed some quality time with your families. It is so nice to slow down for a while!

As we enter Term 3, I am shocked at how little time we have left in this academic year, whilst having so many things still to do. I have included key dates for your diary in this Summer Term Newsletter. As you will see there are so many dates to remember this term, please retain for future reference.

I wish to thank you for your generosity in our fundraising efforts to date - funds raised so far are £6,074.10. The amount raised specifically for Trocaire during Lent via the Easter Egg raffle, donations to Class Trocaire boxes and wearing the Shamrock jersey was £675.40 (and £20). This is remarkable.

You will be aware that the School Council selects the charities that we will be supporting at the start of each year, however this term we are adopting an additional charity - 'Lauren's Adventures.' As a school, we felt that it was important to support Lauren's family in her fundraising efforts, obviously because her story is every parent's nightmare, but also because her grandmother Mrs Ann McGivern was a teacher in St Clare's for many years and would no doubt have been known to many of our mothers who were past pupils.

As such, whilst the sponsored walk scheduled for 24 May 2019, was initially planned as a boost to school funds, we will now be donating a significant portion of the funds raised to 'Lauren's Adventures.' I urge you to watch the digital recording of Lauren's Story, <https://solvingkidscancer.org.uk/campaigns/lauren-fitzgerald>. It is hard to watch and was extremely difficult for her very private family to create. I showed it to our P7 pupils and we have asked any of them who would like to make a donation from their 'Confirmation money' to the cause, to do so by returning to their teacher. I will be asking the same from our P4 First Communicants, but without showing the recording, as it would be too traumatic for such young children to watch it. We are also in a very lucky position in that one of our parents has access to 'match funding' via an occupational benefit, so any funds that we raise up to \$2500, will be matched by his employer. I thank you in anticipation of any donation you will be able to make, however big or small. To date from confirmation money, we have raised £190.00. Thank you.

A series of maths questionnaires have gone onto the website. Please complete one relevant to your child's year group. We welcome your insight.

We have so many lovely events ahead of us this term, I look forward to seeing you join us for many of them. Best wishes to you and your wonderful children and here's to a summer term filled with lots of sunshine. (Please God!!)

Yours in Partnership,
Mrs Monaghan

Other News

Holy Communion will be held on Saturday 18 May 2019 at 10.30 am in St Mary's Church, Chapel Street, Newry. Families are invited back to school for a celebratory gathering and light snack.

The sacrament of Confirmation on Friday 12 April 2019 was very special. The respect in the church from children and adults alike was tangible and even Bishop Boyce commented on it. Thank you so much.

We have had some gorgeous photographs emailed to stclaresabbey@gmail.com and they are now on our website. We would love more if you could possibly forward some to us!

Music Matters . . .



Our School Choir had a great day in the Peace Proms in RDS in Dublin on 3 February 2019. We thank our students for their work in making this event a success and to all the families that attended in support. We are also so proud our Chamber Choir got through to the semi-final of the UTV Choir of the Year. Amazing voices which can be watched again on our website.

So many dates to remember this term . . .

06.05.19	Holiday	
08.05.19	NSPCC - Parent Talk on Internet Safety for our Children - 1.30 pm	
09.05.19	Letters posted for Nursery and P1 Admission for September 2019	
13.05.19	Test Week	
18.05.19	Holy Communion - St Mary's Church, Chapel Street at 10.30 am.	
23.05.19	P3 May Service at 9.30 am	
20/22/23.05.19	May Procession @ 1.30 pm (Day to be decided depending on weather)	
24.05.19	Sponsored Walk	
27-29.05.19	Holiday and Staff Training	
31.05.19	Non Uniform Day	
Sports Week (Parents are welcome at all Sports Day Events)	03.06.19 - Nursery AM - 9.30 am (School field)	03.06.19 - Nursery PM - 1.00 pm (School field)
	04.06.19 - P1 - 9.30 am (School)	04.06.19 - P2 - P2 - 1.15 (School)
	05.06.19 - P3 - 9.30 am (School)	06.06.19 - P4-P7 - 10.00 am (Pairc Esler)
14.06.19	Charity Jersey Day	
20.06.19	Primary 7 Graduation Day at 1.30 pm (Pupils finish school after Graduation). There is a small chance this could be changed depending on Fr Krzysztof being available.	
23.06.19	Corpus Christi Procession - details to follow. We encourage our P4 and P7 students to take part in their Sacramental outfits.	
26.06.19	Pupils changing classes. Details to follow.	
26.06.19	Induction of new P1 parents - 1.30 pm.	
28.06.18	School finishes at 12.00 noon. No meals will be served and no buses will be available at finishing time.	

Important . . .

The Education Welfare Officer (EWO) monitors our attendance remotely. It is very important that you give a reason for your child's absence as a failure to do so reflects badly on you, the parent, and the school. Reasons can be submitted by telephone, in person, by e-mail only to bdowney378@c2kni.net or in writing to class teacher. **School Grounds:** In light of a safety talk by Road Safety NI in school recently, we request that parents DO NOT drop off children in front of parked cars as they are running between cars which can result in a serious accident. Use the lay-bys provided.

Teachers release pupils at the gate only. **They are not to be collected from their lines in transit.**

'Allergies': Once again we remind you that due to severe allergies, our School operates a strict **'NO NUTS' Policy**. We also have children with **dairy allergies**. Parents of pupils in the classes in question have been contacted.

Nursery Diary Dates . . .

People who help us:		
02.05.19	Nurse	Mrs Eaton
07.05.19	Dentist	Mrs Weldrick
08.05.19	Good Nutrition	Mrs Wright
14.05.19	Paramedic	Mr Henry
TBA	Author	Mrs McGivern

Cross Community Activities with Ashgrove Nursery School	
03.05.19	Gathering Drums
10.05.19	Mr Hullabaloo

15-16.05.19	New Parents Visit to Nursery (Parents only)
Week of 10.06.19	Nursery dads invited to read at Story time in run up to Father's Day.
19.06.19	Nursery Graduation: AM Class - 10.00 am / PM Class 1.00 pm
24 & 25.06.19	Stay and Play Sessions for pupils and parents of new intake.

School Trip Dates . . .

Please ensure that students wear their full School PE Tracksuit, have coats and wear appropriate footwear. Children must bring a healthy snack and full packed lunch with them. Please ensure Authorisation Slips, payment and completed Appendix 2 Medical Form is returned to Class Teacher. Students cannot take part in trip until the above is returned.

10.06.19	P4	Castlewellan Forest
11.06.19	P7	Kilbroney Pursuits
12.06.19	P2	Streamvale Farm
13.06.19	P1	Fort Evergreen
14.06.19	P3	Kilbroney
17.06.19	P6	Navan Fort
18.06.19	P5	W5

JUST TO FINISH . . .

Annual Board of Governors 2017/2018 Report is now available on the website. If you need a paper copy, please contact the School Office

