



St Mary's Primary School, Cushendall

Parent Information – February 2023



Dear Parent / Guardian

WORLD BOOK DAY

Next Thursday, 2nd March we are celebrating 'World Book Day', as part of the fun planned for the day, children can come dressed as their favourite book character and bring their favourite book with them. Please do not go to any expense buying outfits for the day. Uniform must be worn if children not dressing up. We are asking for a £1 donation for each child to go towards library resources.

ST PATRICK'S DAY

Everyone is asked to wear something green on Wednesday 15th March as we celebrate St Patrick's Day in school. Children can wear one green thing or come completely dressed in green. It's up to you! The day is a non-uniform day and fun activities will take place during the day.

FIRST CONFESSION

Children in Primary 3 will be making their First Confession in the Church on **Tuesday 28th March 2023** at **1.00pm**. Further details will be sent home at a later date.

ONLINE RESOURCES

MATHSEEDS/MATHLETICS program is a numeracy resource – which the school pays a yearly subscription for – teachers set regular compulsory homework on these platforms and we ask that your child makes every effort to complete these tasks.

Should anyone need any help accessing any of these online resources please do not hesitate to contact the school for assistance.

ANNUAL EASTER EGG ROLLING FUN

As yet, no date has been set but it will definitely be held during the week beginning Monday 3rd April – the week we get our Easter holidays. Children wishing to take part in our 'Easter Egg Roll' are asked to paint a hard-boiled egg and bring it to school on the day, we will let you know the date when we have an idea of the weather forecast for that week.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

First Holy Communion for our P4 children will take place on **Saturday 13th May 2023** at **11.00am**. Further details will follow at a later date.

CONFIRMATION

P7 pupils will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on **Thursday 25th May 2023** at **1.00pm**. Further details will follow at a later date.

Information Forms will be sent home soon which parents should complete and return to school as soon as possible.

SCHOOL UNIFORM & OUTDOOR CLOTHING

Can everyone please make sure all uniform items are clearly marked with your child's name and class? Please ensure your child brings a coat (with hood or a hat) to school every day. We often walk to Mass or complete lessons outdoors regardless of the weather. Children can wear a fleece during class if they wish.

HEALTH & SAFETY

In the interests of everyone's safety can we please ask all adults and children to use the small gate when going to and from school and not to use the car park gate at any time

PARKING AT THE SCHOOL GATE

It is very important that everyone remembers not to park on the yellow lines outside the small gate at any time! The markings are there to help keep everyone safe and we really don't want anyone to have an accident.

HEALTHY LUNCH BOXES

Just a little reminder that 'Healthy Lunch Box Day' is every day. It is great to see many children bringing fruit yoghurts, jelly, custard and fruit instead of chocolate snacks or crisps. Children can bring a small treat in their lunchbox on a Friday.

WATER IN SCHOOL

Children MUST drink ONLY WATER in school. Diluted Juice is NOT ALLOWED in water bottles.

ABSENTEEISM

If your child is absent from school, please contact the office before 10.00am. On return to school your child must have a note to explain their absence. This is an Educational Welfare Office regulation.

GAELFAST HURLING

We are delighted to welcome Antrim GAA Gaelfast coach Dominic McKinley back to St Mary's. Dominic will be here every Thursday from 30th March until the end of the summer term, coaching the P1 – P7 children. Everyone should wear their sports gear to school each Thursday and if your child has their own hurl and helmet, they should bring these also, please ensure that everything is clearly marked with your child's name.

UPDATED SCHOOL CLOSURES

Just to remind you of the updated closures - the Primary School & Nursery Unit will be closed from Monday 1st – Monday 8th May 2023. The updated calendar is available on the school website www.stmaryspscushendall.com

ST MARY'S PS & NURSERY WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGES

Please remember to check out our Website: www.stmaryspscushendall.com & Facebook page for updates, photographs, dinner menus and all information regarding St Mary's Primary School & Nursery Unit

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 16th & Friday 17th March	Primary School & Nursery Unit Closed
Wednesday 28th March	First Confessions – Primary 3
Friday 7th – Friday 14th April	Easter Holidays (please note on Thursday 6 th April the PS will close at 11.00am & there will be no Afternoon Nursery Session)
Monday 1st – Friday 5th May	May Holiday - Primary School & Nursery Unit Closed
Monday 8th May	Coronation - Primary School & Nursery Unit Closed
Saturday 13th May	First Holy Communion at 11.00am– Primary 4
Tuesday 16th May	P1 Health Appraisals
Thursday 18th May	Council Elections Polling Station – PS & NU Closed
Thursday 25th May	Confirmation at 1.00pm– Primary 7
Monday 29th May	Primary School & Nursery Unit Closed
Friday 30th June	Last day of School / Nursery for the 22-23 school year. (the PS will close at 11.00am & there will be no Afternoon Nursery Session)

As always please ensure we have your most up to date contact information on file and continue to regularly check your emails (including junk folder), our website www.stmaryspscushendall.com and Facebook page. It is also important to inform us if you have changed address so our records are accurate.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or email info@stmarysps.cushendall.ni.sch.uk.

The majority of our correspondence with you will now be via email so it is vital that you regularly check for new information.

Mrs Helen Magee

Principál

BA (QTS) Hons, PQH(N.I)