



St Mary's Primary School, Cushendall

Parent Information – October 2023

MAROON & WHITE DAYS

Thank you and Congratulations to the County Senior Hurling Champions 2023, Ruairí Óg Senior Hurlers who visited us on Friday 13th & then again today, Friday 20th October, when they brought the 'Volunteer Cup' back to St Mary's. We would like to wish the entire Team and Management Good Luck for the upcoming Ulster Semi-Final on Sunday 19th November.

CS MOMENTS PHOTOGRAPHY

Photograph orders are being collected from the school office on **Wednesday 25th October 2023**.

PARENT / TEACHER MEETINGS

Pastoral Phone call P1 – P3 & Parent/Teacher Meetings for P4 – P7 will take place on

Monday 6 th November	-	1.30pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday 7 th November	-	1.30pm – 3.30pm
Wednesday 8 th November	-	1.30pm – 3.30pm

N.B. There will be NO BUTTERFLY CLUB on Tuesday 7th November.

All children will be going home at 1.00pm on these days.

PARENT HELPER REQUEST

Are you (parent/grandparent/other relative/carer) available to help supervise children on outings in the local community or on school trips? If you are able to help in any way, please contact the school as soon as possible as we really do need your help. All our helpers who would like to fill in an Access NI form can contact the school office at any time. It is essential that anyone who helps out with school trips or provides transport to various school events are vetted annually. I would encourage as many helpers as possible to fill in the form as soon as possible.

N.B. Thank you to everyone who helped us last year. If you are able to help again this year, please contact the school office.

HEALTHY EATING

Can I remind everyone that as part of our school policy, children are asked to bring a healthy option for Morning Break, i.e., fruit, vegetable pieces, scones/sandwiches (with non-sweet filling), milk or water. Please do not send crisps, fizzy drinks etc.

Only water is permitted in the children's drinking bottles that are used in the classroom for during the school day. If your child wishes to have cordial with their lunch that is permitted.

Thank you to everyone for your co-operation with our Dinner/Break system. Just to remind everyone that the dinner/break menu is sent home on a Thursday. A Menu sheet should be completed for each child and then placed, along with the correct money, in an individual envelope, sealed and labelled, with the correct money (no change will be given) and placed in the allocated tray in their classroom on the following Monday. The menu will also be uploaded to our Website.

TEST TEXT MESSAGE

A text message was sent to each household on Wednesday 25th September regarding a school closure on 29th September. If your nominated number did not receive this message, please contact the school office immediately. (Please note that each household can only have one nominated number to receive a text message).

COOL CASH FRIDAY

Our Cool Cash Friday Draw will now take place on the last Friday of the month in the Primary School. Draw envelopes will continue to be sent home with the Primary School and Nursery children each month and will also be available in various local business' around Cushendall. Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising venture over the last year, and we encourage everyone to continue to support our monthly draw.

HALLOWEEN FUN

Thursday 26th October children are allowed to come to school in fancy dress. We are asking for a £2 contribution from all children which will go towards our Hallowe'en fun morning. Can we please ask that no one wears a clown outfit of any description as we are aware they can cause distress to young children. The welfare of all of our children is paramount and I hope you will support us in this decision.

SUSTRANS

We are delighted to have been selected to work with SUSTRANS this year. We will be holding lots of events to encourage the children to walk, wheel or cycle to school.

GUITAR LESSONS

Our Afterschool Guitar Lessons with 'Ceól na Mara' (Annemarie McKendry) will be resuming next month on a Tuesday afternoon. Please note that due to our Parent/Teacher meetings the first lesson will take place from 3.00 – 3.30pm on Tuesday 14th November 2023.

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 26th October	Hallowe'en Fancy Dress Fun Day (£2/child)
Friday 28th October	Hallowe'en Holidays – School will close at 11.00am. There will be no Afternoon Nursery Session Primary School & Nursery Unit will re-open on Mon 6 th November.
Monday 6th November	Pastoral Phone call / Parent / Teacher Meetings 1.30 – 3.30pm ALL CHILDREN HOME AT 1.00PM
Tuesday 7th November	
Wednesday 8th November	
Wednesday 15th November	Indoor Camogie Blitz – Cross & Passion College, Ballycastle
Friday 17th November	Indoor Hurling Blitz – Cross & Passion College, Ballycastle
Friday 24th November	SUSTRANS - Ditch the Dark Day (Whole School) P6 / P7 Cycling Workshop
Wednesday 13th December	Pantomime Trip
Friday 15th December	Christmas Dinner, all children home at 1.00pm. There will be no Afternoon Nursery on this date.
<i>(Date to be Confirmed)</i>	<i>We are hoping to hold our School Show / Carol Service in St Mary's Church on Wednesday 20th December</i>
Thursday 21st December	Primary School & Nursery Unit will close at 11am for Christmas Holidays. PS & Nursery will reopen on Thursday 4 th January 2024.
Friday 1st March	SUSTRANS - Ditch the Stabilisers Day
Thursday 21st March	First Confession at 1.00pm (P3 children)
Saturday 18th May	First Holy Communion at 11.00am (P4 children)

Please remember that all updates will be provided through our school website –
www.stmaryspscushendall.com and Facebook page.

As always, if you have any concerns regarding your child/children please feel free to contact me at any time.

Mrs Helen Magee
Principál