



**ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, CUSHENDALL
PARENT INFORMATION – JANUARY 2019**

OPEN ENROLMENT 2019-2020:

Primary One September 2019: Children born on or between 2 July 2014 & 1 July 2015.

Nursery September 2019: Target Age: Children born on or between 2 July 2015 & 1 July 2016.

Under Age: Children born on or between 2 July 2016 & 1 July 2017.

The closing date & time for Primary School & Nursery applications for September 2019 is 12 midnight on Thursday 31st January.

This year the EA have changed the Application Process for applying for Pre-School & Primary 1 new admissions to an online system. The online portal <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions> became live on **Wednesday 2nd January 2019** at 10.00am and closes at 12 midnight on **Thursday 31st January 2019**. If you require any help please feel to contact the school at any time. You are encouraged to study the admissions criteria for St Mary's and any other school/nursery you would consider sending your child to before completing an application. Information on the admissions procedure is currently on the EA website under Admissions which includes the option of 'finding a pre-school or primary school in your area'. You should continue to check this website for further updates on the admissions procedure. Paper versions of the Application forms are also from the school office. Supporting Documentation should be brought to your 1st preference school/nursery by 12noon on Friday 8th February 2018.

ADMISSION TO POST PRIMARY EDUCATION 2019-2020:

We are waiting on the EA to send information regarding transferring to Post Primary Education in September 2019. Information regarding Open Night dates and times is available online on the EA website <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>

'WALK TO SCHOOL' DAYS:

The date for this month is Friday 18th January and the usual arrangements apply. Well done and thank you to everyone who took part last term – we hope you will join in again and get the New Year off to a good start!

N.B. If the weather is very wet or if it is frosty/snowy & the pavements are slippery the walk will not take place.

SCHOOL UNIFORM:

Can everyone please make sure all uniform items are clearly marked with your child's name and class? Can we also remind everyone that the approved school uniform is:

Girl's Uniform

Maroon skirt/pinafore or
Checked school summer dress
White t-shirt
School sweatshirt
Plain white or maroon socks
Plain black or maroon tights
Plain black trousers (no leggings please)

Boy's Uniform

Plain dark grey/black trousers or
Dark grey/black school shorts (no sports shorts)
White t-shirt
School sweatshirt

Nail Varnish - Children are not allowed to wear nail varnish in school.

Hair Styles - Please remember “speed lines” or mohican cuts and dyed, tipped or excessively gelled hair should not be worn to school. This is common practice in very many schools and everyone is asked for their support in this matter.

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;
- use the front door when going to and from school if there is snow or ice and not go across the main playground.

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 Wednesday. It is great to see many children bringing fruit yoghurts, jelly, custard and fruit instead of chocolate snacks or crisps on Wednesdays. Can we ask everyone to please keep Wednesdays crisp and chocolate free and try to encourage your child to bring a piece of fruit or vegetable every Wednesday?

WATER IN SCHOOL:

All children are encouraged to drink water during the school day and drinking water is available in all classrooms. Some children already bring in their own bottle but there are a large number of children who do not. Please encourage your child to bring a water bottle to school every day. (P1&2 already have individual drinking cups in their classrooms so they do not need water bottles.)

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY:

Should you wish to raise a concern about the welfare of any child at the school the procedures which should be followed are listed below.

CLOSURE DUE TO BAD WEATHER:

Hopefully this will not happen but if it does everyone will be sent a text message from the school or information will be posted on the BBC NI News/School Closures website <http://www.bbc.co.uk/ninews>. We will also post updates on our Website and Facebook pages.



ST MARY’S PS & NURSERY WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGES

Please remember to check out our
Website: www.stmarypspushendall.com & Facebook page



**for daily updates, photographs, dinner menus and all information regarding
St Mary’s Primary School & Nursery Unit**

IMPORTANT DATES

- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Friday 1 st February 2019 | - | Exceptional Closure – Primary School & Nursery Unit Closed |
| Mon 18 th – Fri 22 nd Feb 2019 | - | Mid Term Break |
| Wednesday 22 nd May 2019 | - | Confirmation 4.00p.m. (P.7 pupils) |
| Saturday 8 th June 2019 | - | First Holy Communion 11.00a.m. (P4 pupils) |

Mrs Helen Magee
Principal

HOW A PARENT CAN REGISTER A CONCERN / MAKE A COMPLAINT

I have a concern about my / a child's safety



I can talk to the Class/Nursery Teacher



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the designated teacher for Child Protection

(Mrs C Magill - Primary School)
(Mrs C Parker – Nursery Unit)



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Principal
(Mrs H Magee)



If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairman of the Board of Governors (Mr Alastair McKillop)



At any time, I can talk to

a Social Worker at the Gateway Team

Tel: 0800 7837745 (Free Phone from a Landline)

Or can contact the PSNI Public Protection Unit

Tel: 101 (Ask for PPU in 'E' District)