




MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017



DATES TO REMEMBER MARCH 2017	
Wednesday 1 March	Ash Wednesday Services in School
Thursday 2 March	World Book Day Netball Club begins
Friday 3 March	Credit Union Quiz Regional Finals
Tuesday 7 March	First Confessions @ 7p.m. Our best wishes and prayers. 
Wednesday 8 March	Cumann na mBunscol Quiz in St. Brigid's PS, Ballymena
Wednesday 15 March	Confirmation @ 4 p.m. Our best wishes and prayers. School Closed @ 12.30 p.m. for all pupils (there will be buses and school dinners). 
Thursday 16 March	St. Patrick's Day Celebrations Assembly in Parish Hall @ 9 a.m. for all pupils.
Friday 17 March	St. Patrick's Day School Closed 
Sunday 19 March	PTA Maths Trail leaving the school @ 1 p.m.
Wednesday 29 March	Y1 Medicals begin

PTA

Our next event will be a Maths Trail around Glenravel for the children and their families. We hope to raise funds for the school as well as promoting World Maths Day on:

Sunday 19 March 2017 @ 1 p.m.

Maths is a School Development Plan priority and we want the children to know that maths is fun and maths is all around us.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The development of play in the Foundation Stage (Y1 & Y2) is a School Development Plan priority.

Foundation Stage

Enhancing Play in the Foundation Stage is one of MQP's aims this year. We have been creative both inside and outside of the classroom. Through Play we want the children to be actively involved in their learning and this undoubtedly helps to further develop their skills, knowledge and understanding in a fun, active and interesting way.

Benjamin Franklin once said, "Tell me and I forget, Show me and I remember, Involve me and I will understand."



Visit our website to see your child's learning in action, it is well worth a visit and you will see the children developing their skills in all of the important areas of Play.

Thank you to the PTA for their fantastic support and Sean McKeown (Little World) for the beautiful staging/reading area he has helped to create in Cargan. With your continued help we can provide exciting opportunities in Play for our youngest pupils at the Cargan campus.

Mrs S Hynds

Foundation Stage Co-ordinator

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council will meet with the Literacy Co-ordinator (Mrs McKeown) this month to order new titles for Accelerated Reader (AR) in Key Stage 2 (Y5-7). We believe that the children should be involved in decision making in their school and buying books with the Literacy Co-ordinator is a very practical way in which we can listen to and involve our children. We will also, as a result, buy books that the children are interested in; written by authors that appeal to the children themselves; and which will be of interest to both boys and girls.

So far this year the pupils in Y5-7 have read **1,639** AR books and a total of **10,450,622** words. Wow!

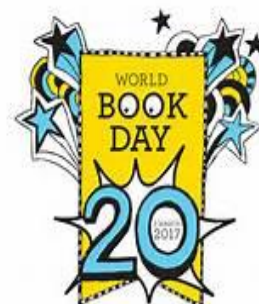
WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day: **Thursday 2 March 2017.**

Why not come along dressed as your favourite book character and enjoy some of the fun activities we have planned in school?

Go on, be creative. We would love to see original costumes.

£1 book tokens attached to this month's newsletter.



SCHOOL SPORT

GAA:

Congratulations to the hurling and camogie teams who won their respective SW Antrim Championships and proceeded to All-County Finals. It was also a special day for both teams because they got to wear our new 'away' kit for the first time.

Cross-Country:

Well done to our girls' cross-country team who won the Causeway Region competition and represented the district as champions at Athletics NI's Finals. Our girls came in sixth overall making them the 6th best primary school in the country. A well-deserved honour for a committed and talented group, brilliantly supported by their parents. We also had a representative in the boys' individual race and he finished in the top 10% of runners. Well done!



School Kit:

Our new team kits have arrived in school and are causing quite a stir. Here they are modelled by the children who designed them (the winning designs were selected by the School Council).



'Home' Kit



'Away Kit'

BALLYMENA FESTIVAL

The festival is underway at present and we have participants in the choir, dancing and speech & drama categories.

Check out the website for updates and we will have a report in our next newsletter. Thank-you to Mrs Claire McAleenan who has come back to MQP to help prepare our children.



SCHOOL AIMS

Our aims shape the curriculum. The school's third aim is: *To provide an education which enables every child to be proud of their learning and achievements by delivering a modern, active, broad and balanced curriculum thus ensuring high academic literacy, numeracy and ICT standards throughout the school.*

Our School Development Plan has targeted improvement this year in literacy (Accelerated Reader), numeracy (mental maths, problem solving, practical work, investigations) and ICT (programming using Scratch). We are making our learning more active and modern.

Assessment results show that our children are obtaining scores that are significantly higher than the national averages in both literacy and mathematics.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We had cross-country, choir, hurling, ECO, camogie, Zumba, girls' soccer, knitting, multi-skills and quiz clubs in February.

This month sees the introduction of netball (Mrs Gormley) and more new clubs to follow.

LENT

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday Services in both Cargan and Martinstown. We will also start our annual collection for Trócaire and there will be fundraising events during the Lenten season, look out for details on the website. There will also be a Trócaire box in each classroom. Fr Lyons will present February's Pupil of the Month certificates following the Ash Wednesday Services. Please note that all pupils will go to the Parish Centre on **Thursday 16 March @ 9 a.m.** for St. Patrick's Day celebrations (Y6 Assembly). There will be **no** Pupil of the Month assembly on the last Thursday (30th) of March.



TEMPORARY REGISTER of EMPLOYMENT

Temporary employment positions may become available during the school year as a cleaner, school crossing-patrol, caretaker, lunchtime supervisor or catering assistant. Please register with the school secretary if you are interested in any of the temporary positions.

SUPERMARKET

We are collecting Active Kids (Sainsbury's) vouchers. Support from parishioners & home would be very welcome.

GLENRAVEL PANTO PLAYERS

Will present '**BRAVE**' in the Parish Centre on:
Friday 10th March – 8.00pm; **Saturday 11th March – 3.00pm**
& **Sunday 12th March – 7.30pm.**

The cast includes many of our pupils displaying their talents in song and dance. Adm: Adults £5; Under 16s £3

WEBSITE

3,000 people have visited the school's website and there have been 10,000 hits on our site!

www.mqpghlenravel.com

