

# MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER November 2016



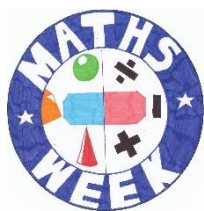
DATES TO REMEMBER		NOVEMBER 2016
Monday 31 October – Friday 4 November	Hallowe'en Mid-Term School Closed	
Monday 7 November – Friday 11 November	School Closed @ 2 p.m. each day for Parent / Teacher Meetings Except Thursday Y4-7 @ 3 p.m.	
Monday 7 November	School Re-Opens Swimming Begins for Mrs Davies' Y5 Class	
Tuesday 8 November	Closing Day for Design a School Team Kit Competition PTA Christmas Cards Returned to the School	
Thursday 10 November	GAA President Visits the School @ 2 p.m.	
Friday 11 November	Road of Hope Shoe Box: Final Day Flu Vaccination Programme	
Monday 14 November	Anti-Bullying Week: Power for Good	
Wednesday 16 November	PTA Meeting @ 7 p.m. in Martinstown	
Sunday 20 November	Commitment Service for Y4 & Y7 @ 11 a.m. Parish Mass	
Wednesday 23 November	Healthy Break Survey Returns	
Thursday 24 November	Whole School Assembly Final Day GAA Club	
Friday 25 November	Running Club Resumes	

### CURRICULUM

Mary Queen of Peace PS has a 3 year School Development Plan (SDP) to manage its curricular, pastoral care, finance and accommodation priorities. Our curriculum priorities for 2016-17 include:

#### MATHEMATICS:

Maths Week (17 – 21 October 2016) helped raise the profile of mathematics in the school and in the children's lives, with the emphasis very much on fun.



Mrs McConway organised whole school practical maths activities and games for the infants; bingo for the middle school and a maths quiz for the senior classes. In class the emphasis was on problem solving activities and teaching the children strategies to help them solve problems. The children also learnt about famous mathematicians and we hope this will encourage some of our children to follow a career in Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) subjects in the future.

Congratulations to all our individual winners during the week and to the family quiz winners as well. There will be further whole school maths activities later in the year.

#### LITERACY: ACCELERATED READER

October update: **807 books** and a total of **4,143,463 words**. Well done everyone!

### PTA

The PTA Committee is now established and we have received fantastic support from parents. Creating a strong school community is a key aim for Mary Queen of Peace PS. The first PTA fundraiser will be the sale of Christmas cards which will be individually designed by the children, printed and sold to each family. A letter from the PTA is enclosed with this month's Newsletter and examples of Christmas card designs are on the PTA section of the school website. Returns should be with the school by **Tuesday 8 November**. Our first event of the year will be a Family Table Quiz. As this has been a particularly busy time in the Glenravel community, with fundraising for the club and the upcoming centenary celebrations, the PTA committee has decided to hold our first activity in the new year.

The next PTA meeting will be on:

**Wednesday 16 November @ 7 p.m. in Martinstown.**

### AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

After school clubs in October included Cross-Country Club (Mr Conlon), Art Club Y4/5 (Mrs Davies), Board Games Club Y4/5 (Mrs McConway) and GAA Club (Mr McKenna).

We have uploaded, to the website, pictures from all seven clubs so far this term. You can find them in:

Our School → After School Clubs:

787 people have used: [www.mqpglenravel.com](http://www.mqpglenravel.com) to date.

### MORNING ROUTINE TIMES

It is important that when the children arrive in school there is supervision in place. The times pupils should be in school by are listed below. Please share this information with child minders and grandparents.

Martinstown		Cargan	
Morning Club	8.00 a.m.		
Pupils for bus to Cargan	8.40 a.m.	Pupils for bus to Martinstown	8.45 a.m.
All other pupils	8.45 a.m.	All other pupils	8.45 a.m.

### MORNING CLUB

The Morning Club is being used by 35 children per day. We thought we would share a few photos:



### ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

This year's theme for Anti-Bullying Week is Power for Good. The children will focus on Anti-Bullying Activities during this week and in November's Whole School Assembly.

### SCHOOL SPORT

Congratulations to our cross-country running team who performed fantastically at Athletics NI's Causeway District Race (I). Our girls' team were overall winners and the boys were third in their competition. Individually we were first and second in the girls' race and second in the boys' race. Round II at the University of Ulster, Coleraine (7 December).



### DESIGN the SCHOOL TEAM KIT COMPETITION

We are looking for design ideas for a school team kit for Mary Queen of Peace PS. There will be a competition to design the kit and every child has been given a copy of the competition form to work on over Hallowe'en. We thought a sports voucher for the winning design, which will be chosen by the School Council, might help!

**Closing date: Tuesday 8 November.**

### RELIGION

Preparation for the sacraments has started in Y4 and Y7. Our sacramental programme is a joint partnership between the parish, school and family.



Fr Lyons will celebrate the children's Commitment Service at 11 a.m. parish mass on **Sunday 20 November.**

### ROAD of HOPE

Our Christmas charity is **Road of Hope Shoe Box Appeal**. Pupils select a child they would like to collect for: boy/girl; an age group. Items to be included should follow the **WWWPC** code:

**W**ash **W**rite **W**ear **P**lay **C**uddle **E**at

Please put the gift items in a shoe box wrapped in Christmas paper, with £2 stuck on the top of the shoe box to cover transport costs.

A leaflet is enclosed with this month's Newsletter and we have spoken to the children about the appeal at assembly.

**Collection date: Friday 11 November.**

### SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

There was great excitement in the school with the School Council Elections. Every child from Y4-7 had a vote in the election and we now have a School Council, who we will consult with when we make decisions about the school. The election process started with class nominations, followed by a well fought election campaign. A huge amount of effort went into publicity. Thank-you to everyone at home and in school who helped with this work. Mr Magee's Y6 class were responsible for conducting the election. They ensured there was an up to date electoral roll, ID for voters and even proper polling booths and a real ballot box (thanks to the Electoral Office for their assistance). Our School Council held its inaugural meeting with the Principal and their first big decision will be the selection of a school kit design competition winner.

### NOVEMBER

**HEALTHY EATING SURVEY** We will seek parents' views on healthy eating in Mary Queen of Peace PS in November.

**GAA PRESIDENT** Aogán Ó Fearghail will visit Mary Queen of Peace PS on **Thursday 10 November @ 2 p.m.** as part of Con Magee's Centenary Celebrations (Y4-7 in school until 3 p.m. on this day). We are very honoured to have such a prominent national leader visit our school.

