

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER November 2017



DATES TO REMEMBER		NOVEMBER 2017
Wednesday 25 October	Milk Money Payment Due	
Thursday 26 October	Please Note: No Whole School Assembly (Parish Hall Closed)	
Friday 27 October	Hallowe'en Fancy Dress 	
Saturday 28 October	PTA Fundraiser for Parish Hall Roof: Coffee Afternoon from 3 – 5 p.m. in the GAA Club	
Monday 30 October – Friday 3 November	Hallowe'en Mid-Term School Closed 	
Monday 6 November	School Re-Opens Final Swim for Y5 Class	
Wednesday 8 November	Road of Hope Shoe Box Appeal: Final Day	
Monday 13 November	Anti-Bullying Week: All Equal, All Different, All Together Swimming Y6 Mr McKenna	
Wednesday 15 November	Final Day Girls' Soccer (Y5-6)	
Monday 20 November	Running Club Resumes	
Tuesday 21 November	PTA Fundraiser: Cash for Clobber	
Thursday 23 November	Boys' Indoor Gaelic Football in Antrim Forum @ 11 a.m.	
Sunday 26 November	Commitment Service for Y4 & Y7 @ 11 a.m. Parish Mass	
Monday 27 November	Final Day Golf (Y4-5)	
Thursday 30 November	Whole School Assembly Girls' Indoor Gaelic Football in Antrim Forum @ 11 a.m.	

MATHS WEEK (16 – 22 October):



Maths Week focused on pupils, community and parents. The Primary 7 pupils supported our PTA by helping them cost and prepare for their upcoming Coffee Afternoon. Key Stage 2 Maths Quiz Teams enthusiastically battled to the last round, with the winning team clinching a victory by just 1 point. Key Stage 1 had their eyes down watching for a full house. Oh what excitement and buzz when everyone was down to the last few numbers waiting on the chance to shout BINGO! I hope you all enjoyed your maths prizes. Our Maths Curriculum Evening was highly successful and provided many games and ideas for our Foundation Stage parents. I wish to thank everyone who worked diligently to ensure that Maths Week was memorable and rewarding.

Fiona McConway Maths Co-ordinator



Y7: Maths in Real Life



KS2 Maths Quiz

HALLOWE'EN

On **Friday 27 October** it is Hallowe'en fancy dress in MQP. Children can come to school in fancy dress (please bring a coat as well). This is a full school day with transport and dinners. We love original and creative costumes in MQP.



LITERACY: ACCELERATED READER

October update: We have read **544 books** and a total of **3,131,938 words**. Well done everyone!

PTA

The PTA is one year old. Happy birthday! Following their AGM in October, a committee has been formed for the 2017-18 school year. Fund raising events will include:



- Coffee Afternoon on 28 October 2017 from 3 – 5 p.m. at the GAA Club. A fundraiser for the Parish Hall. The following fundraisers will be used to support the continued development of ICT in the school:
- Family Bingo – mid-November (to be confirmed)
- Cash for Clobber – Tuesday 21 November 2017. Start collecting!
- Summer Fair – further details will be shared closer to the time.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

After school clubs in October included Cross-Country Club (Mr Conlon), Golf Club Y4/5 (Council), Mindfulness Club Y6 (Mrs McConway), Soccer Club Y5/6 (Council) and Choir Club (Mrs O'Mullan & Stage Presence).

We will upload later this month, to the website, pictures from all five clubs so far this term. You can find them in: Our School → After School Clubs:

Mr McKenna will begin the GAA Club this month.

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 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.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

This year's theme for Anti-Bullying Week is All Equal, All Different, All Together.

The children will focus on Anti-Bullying activities during this week. We will update you with news and photos from the pupils' work in the next newsletter and on the website.

Primary 7 staged a very successful assembly for the Y4-7 pupils based on On-Line Safety, a very important part of our safeguarding and ICT curriculum.

Mrs McConway (Designated Teacher for Child Protection) held Safeguarding Assemblies for all classes in October. During the next two months we will begin a significant consultation exercise on the pupils' views about school, behaviour and anti-bullying. Parents, staff and governors will also be involved in this review.

SCHOOL SPORT

Congratulations to our cross-country running team who competed at Athletics NI's Causeway District Race (I). Our girls' team were overall winners and the boys were fifth in their competition. Round II will be held at the Ulster University, Coleraine (6 December).

The GAA season will begin this month with indoor football competitions for both the boys' and girls' teams.



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 26 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:

Wash **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: Wednesday 8 November.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

A new council has now been elected for the 2017-18 school year. Congratulations to everyone who stood for election and put so much effort into their campaign. Every child from Y4-7 had a vote in the School Council election.

We will consult with the Council when we make decisions about the school.

The election started with class nominations, followed by a campaign with fantastic posters! Thank-you to everyone at home and in school who helped with this work and to Mr McKenna's Y6 class who were responsible for conducting the election. They ensured there was an up to date electoral roll, ID for voters and a real ballot box.

Last year's council did so much for the school including the purchase of playground equipment/AR books; organising the Christmas visit to the cinema; and meeting with the Children's Commissioner to lobby for a new school.

GOVERNORS

A copy of the very first Annual Report from the Board of Governors is included with this month's newsletter. It provides information about the school, its aims, curriculum & assessment, safeguarding, anti-bullying, enrolment, accommodation and finance. The report also includes a calendar of events from our first year in Mary Queen of Peace. It was quite a year and a great deal was achieved. A communication statement from CCMS has been included with the newsletter and on the website, which will update you on developments regarding the new school build.

STAFF

Our very best wishes to Ms Karen Conway who will be leaving MQP at Hallowe'en. We would like to thank Karen for all her work for the school as a leaning support assistant and in the Morning Club. You will be missed by the whole school. Miss Chloe Higgins will take up a position in the school after the mid-term break.