

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER MAY 2016



PRINCIPAL

Dear parents and children,

I am delighted to have taken up my position as Principal of Mary Queen of Peace PS, which I did at the beginning of May. Over the next two months I will be based in both schools as I begin planning for the new school and getting to know the children, staff and parents.

There are a number of important decisions that need to be taken in order to plan for the new school. In this month's newsletter you will see that a decision has been taken, following consultation with yourselves, on our new uniform. I would like to thank you for taking the time to share your views. We now have a uniform which will help us establish our shared identity as we move forward together.

Next month I will write to you advising you of classes for the 2016-17 school year. There will be 9 classes next year so it will be necessary to base one key stage in Cargan and two key stages in Martinstown. The Foundation Stage (Y1&2) will be in Cargan; Key Stage 1 (Y3&4) and Key Stage 2 (Y5-7) will be in Martinstown.

Transport will be provided, where it is required, for children to and from school as well as transferring children between the sites. Application forms for Education Authority Transport will be distributed later this term. I will be able to assist you with this process.

I understand that is a period of change for everyone: parents, staff and pupils. You will be kept informed of plans for the new school and I ask for your co-operation as we work together.



The amalgamation of the schools is the first necessary step towards securing a new school build for our parish. A new school build is our end goal and we will achieve this together.

For our children this will also be a period of change. I will be consulting with the children on the amalgamation and their hopes for the future. This month we have the First Communion and Confirmation classes from both schools working together and there are plans for bringing all of the classes together for fun activities in the month of June.

I look forward to meeting with you at school and parish events this month.

Malachy Conlon
Principal

BUILDING UPDATE

The Trustees of Mary Queen of Peace Primary School and the Department of Education are committed to providing a new school building.

The school building project has been halted because of a planning issue in relation to a footpath to the new school site. The Trustees and Mid & East Antrim Borough Council are working together on a proposal to resolve this planning issue. We will keep you informed of progress.

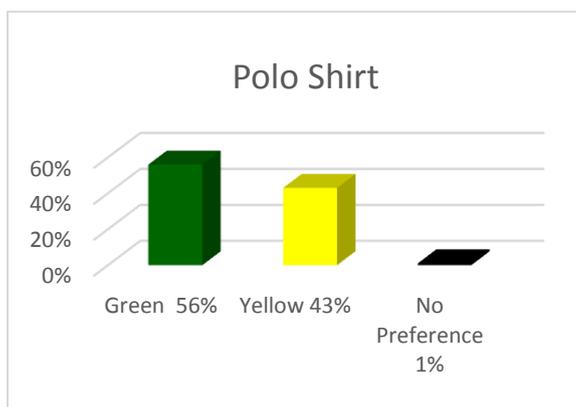
UNIFORM

The school uniform consultation is now complete. A total of **143** forms were returned. There are 149 families in both schools, so this is a very high return rate for a consultation exercise. Thank-you very much for your participation in this process.

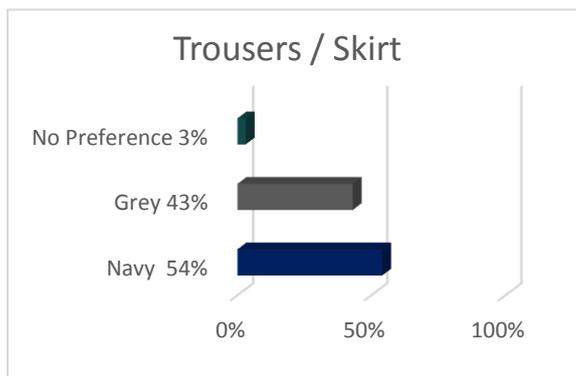
As you can see from the chart below, navy was the most popular colour for the school jumper and coat.



Green was the most popular colour for polo shirts.



Navy was the most popular colour for trousers and skirts.



A number of comments were received during the consultation which have been taken on board, when deciding the final uniform. A significant number of responses asked for the logo to reflect local, parish colours. This can be done and the navy sweatshirt will now have a green logo, while the green polo shirt will have a navy logo. Another query asked if girls could wear trousers and girls will have the choice of trousers or skirts in Mary Queen of Peace PS.

Team Kit, Broughshane Street, Ballymena has been chosen as the supplier for the school's jumpers, polo shirts and coats. Uniforms will be available in store from June.



COMMUNICATION

The school's e-mail address will be: info@mqpps.glenravel.ni.sch.uk which will go live later this month.

A new school website is currently under construction and we hope it will help keep you informed of the school's amalgamation plans. www.mqpglenravel.com